



Day 8

Obedient Surrender / Maturity in Christ

“But He gives more grace. Wherefore He says, God resists the proud, but gives grace unto the humble. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded” (James 4:6-8).

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me’” (Matthew 16:24).

“Holiness is not rapture: it is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and resting in His love” (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 51).

“Paul had a keen sense of the conflict which every soul must wage with the agencies of evil that are continually seeking to deceive and ensnare, and he had worked untiringly to strengthen and confirm those who were young in the faith. He had entreated them to make an entire surrender to God; for he knew that when the soul fails to make this surrender, then sin is not forsaken, the appetites and passions still strive for the mastery, and temptations confuse the conscience. The surrender must be complete. Every weak, doubting, struggling soul who yields fully to the Lord is placed in direct touch with agencies that enable him to overcome. Heaven is near to him, and he has the support and help of angels of mercy in every time of trial and need” (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 298-299).

“I delight to do your will, O my God: and your law is within my heart” (Psalm 40:8).

“As the members of the body of Christ approach the period of their last conflict, “the time of Jacob’s trouble,” they will grow up into Christ, and will partake largely of His spirit. As the third message swells to a loud cry, and as great power and glory attend the closing work, the faithful people of God will partake of that glory. It is the latter rain which revives and strengthens them to pass through the time of trouble. Their faces will shine with the glory of that light which attends the third angel” (*Testimonies*, Vol 1, p. 353).

Prayer Focus: *Maturity in Christ*

Prayerfully plead for God to help us “grow up” and mature in Christ in every area of our lives:

- Unconditional love for each other and the lost.
- Strong, unshakeable faith in God and His promises.
- Clear, thorough understanding of God’s Word.
- Total surrender to God and willingness to obey Him in everything.
- Prepared for the latter rain and the time of the end.
- Personal relationship with Jesus and passionate prayer life.



Leader's Guide Day 8

Suggested Plan for *Obedient Surrender / Maturity in Christ*

- **Introduction - 5 Minutes:**
 - Remind people of general guidelines for united prayer as explained in United Prayer Guidelines (available on www.revivalandreformation.org).
 - Introduce prayer topic of obedient surrender and maturity in Christ.
 - Have each person select five intercession cards at random from the intercession box to pray over during the supplication time. Make sure they return these to the box at the end.

United Prayer Time

- **Praise - 10 Minutes:**
 - Praise God for helping us to surrender all to Him and obey Him fully so that we can be mature in Him. Use the scriptures and quotes on the theme sheet to guide your praises.
 - Praise God for your lost loved ones and the work He is already doing in their lives.
- **Confession – 5 Minutes:**
 - Give people approximately 3 minutes to search their own hearts and silently ask God to reveal anything they need to surrender to Him.
 - Allow about 2 minutes for corporate confession of our collective sins.
- **Supplication - 30 Minutes:**
 - Pray for God to give every church member a fully surrendered heart.
 - Pray for total obedience to God's Word to become the norm in each member's life.
 - Pray/claim the scriptures and quotes on the theme sheet.
 - Devote a large portion of the supplication time to praying for Seventh-day Adventists to be mature in their faith in the areas listed under the Intercession Focus.
 - Claim the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as promised in God's Word.
 - Divide people into groups of twos or threes to pray for the individuals/situations listed on the five cards they chose from the box. Encourage them to keep praying scriptures!
- **Praise - 10 Minutes:**
 - Thank God for giving us a obedient surrender and maturity in Christ!

Suggested Songs to Use: Come Holy Spirit, I Need You; I Surrender All (*SDA Hymnal* # 309); Sanctuary; God is so Good; In His Time; Have Thine Own Way, Lord (*SDA Hymnal* #567); Trust and Obey (*SDA Hymnal* #590); Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow (*SDA Hymnal* #694, 695).