

# **Be Surrendered**

## **No More Perfect Date Night**

**Jill Savage:** We're looking at the Be Attitudes of change in marriage, and these are the things that make a difference in us moving from taking in information to actually applying it and transforming our relationship in some way.

**Mark Savage:** So our Be Attitude today is to be surrendered. And this really comes down to, who's in the driver's seat of your life? Whose will is more important? Our will, or God's will?

**JS:** Yeah, and if there's a disconnection between information and transformation, surrender may be the peace that's holding back the application because you can't apply something that you are learning if your heart is being led by self.

**MS:** And what's true is that when we're being led by self, we're gonna lead ourselves into ruin, we're gonna lead ourselves into perpetual conflict and perpetual hostilities really towards our family, towards our marriage.

**JS:** 'Cause left to our own, we are prideful, we're selfish, we're judgmental, protective of our own interests, and really the key to surrender is humility.

**MS:** Yeah. It's really waving that white flag and saying, "Man, I don't have this under control. What do I need to do to accomplish this?"

**JS:** And it feels like we need to do more.

**MS:** Right.

**JS:** So surrender goes against what it feels like we need to do, but really what we need to do is we need to open up our hands and let go, and surrender our will to God's will. We actually see Jesus do this in the garden of Gethsemane. He was facing the cross, and he knew what he had to do. But he said, "God, will you take this cup from me?" And then he said, "But not my will, yours." And we actually see him wrestle and then surrender, and I think that's what we... I think we want the wrestle to not be there sometimes.

**MS:** Right. Because it's painful.

**JS:** Right. But there will be a wrestle, but the sooner we will learn to surrender to God, the sooner we will have a heart that actually can be transformed.

**MS:** We wanted to share a couple scriptures with you from Proverbs. Proverbs 22:4 says, "The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor in life." So the reward for humility or surrender is riches, honor in life.

**JS:** I love that.

**MS:** And then in Proverbs 11:2, it says, "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom."

**JS:** Yes, that is what we need, is that we need humility. And you and I talk about that in our No More Perfect Marriages book. One of the God tools is humility. And humility is what allows us to move out of the driver's seat and put God in the driver's seat where he needs to be, recognizing that he's a much better driver when it comes to the things of this life.

**MS:** Right, right. And for me, where I learned it was I was trying to force life to happen. I was trying to force Jill into my way of thinking, into my decisions, and there was just a lot of self. That caused a lot of pain, and I had to learn to let God lead. And so one of the questions we could ask ourselves is, "How do we let God lead?" For me, it's acceptance, accepting that I can't figure this out, that I don't know the right answers. Or maybe the mess that I've made is way too big, "How do I go about this, Lord?" The image I've had is like me being a little boy walking down the middle of the road, holding on to the hand of Daddy God saying, "God, Dad, what do you want me to do? Where do you want me to go? Where are we headed? Okay, I'm with you."

**JS:** Yeah. So acceptance is a first part of surrender.

**MS:** And that's a heart. It's a surrender in our heart.

**JS:** Yeah. Another way that we let God lead is through prayer, just asking him for direction. That's really what you were saying, holding on to the hand of God and saying, "Okay, where are we going?" And I think a lot of times we think of prayer is, "We have to fold our hands and we have to close our eyes." We just need to talk to God, we just need to talk to him, okay? And sometimes we need to slow down our responses, our decisions, trusting that he will lead the way. Another way is opening God's Word, reading the Bible daily to get our marching orders.

**MS:** Right. Well, and really, what we've learned is what's recorded in the Bible is really the language in which the Holy Spirit's gonna speak to us, and so God is never gonna contradict himself, Dad is never gonna tell us to do something that he hasn't confirmed in his Word.

**JS:** Yeah. If transformation seems to not be happening, take a look at who's in the driver's seat of your life. Move to the passenger side and let God lead.

**MS:** Be surrendered.

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