

**The Walk: Total
Commitment
Romans 12:1**

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

Romans 12:1 Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice- alive, holy and pleasing to God- which is your reasonable service.² Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God- what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.

Matt. 13:44-46⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Romans 8:32 He who did not spare His own Son (Jesus), but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him (Jesus) also freely give us all things?

Key Point: As long as you maintain control over your life, you will always be destined to get only what you can provide for yourself, not what He really wants to give you.

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- When have you really had to sacrifice for something? What did you give up? What made you willing to invest so much of yourself to achieve that goal?

Start thinking. Select questions to get your group thinking.

- In the two case studies of John (with the estate sale and 22 gold coins) and Shelia (with the "replica Picasso"), what were the risks and rewards? When you heard this on Sunday, what did you think you would have done in their situations?
- In what ways are those fictitious case studies similar, and in what ways are they different, from Jesus parables in Matt 13:44-46?
- In Romans 12:1, what is the sacrifice that Paul is talking about?
- In John 12:24-25, what did Jesus teach about surrender and true spirituality?
- How did Jesus model surrender as the pathway to pleasing the father? (see Phil 2:6-7; John 5:19, 30; Matt 26:39)

Start sharing. Choose questions to create openness.

- What is it that God wants from you? (see Luke 9:23-24)
- Why is it so hard to surrender to God sometimes? What perspective does Psalm 84:11 remind us to have?
- Do you ever think that if you really surrendered all, that God would take away our enjoyment in life and keep us from the best things in life?
- What are the biggest barriers that keep you from making a total commitment to Jesus Christ?

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- Sometime this week, take time to write out a prayer of surrender to God that is specific to you and your circumstances.

Prayer Requests. It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

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