

Day 1: Surrendered to the Master

Scripture

Titus 1:1 (NASB 1995)

"Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ..."

Reflection

Before Paul identified himself as an apostle, missionary, or church planter, he described himself as a servant of God. The word Paul used referred to a slave, someone completely devoted to the will and purposes of another.

Our culture celebrates independence and self determination. We are encouraged to follow our hearts, pursue our dreams, and define our own truth. Yet the Christian life begins with surrender. Following Jesus means yielding our plans, desires, and ambitions to His authority.

Paul understood that true freedom was found in complete submission to Christ. He no longer lived for himself. His identity, purpose, and direction flowed from his relationship with his Master.

The question we must ask ourselves is simple. Who or what controls our lives? Career advancement, financial success, family expectations, comfort, and approval can easily become competing masters. Jesus invites us to surrender all of those things to Him and discover the joy of wholehearted obedience.

Illustration

A kite experiences its greatest freedom not when the string is cut, but when it remains connected to the one guiding it. Detached from its guide, it quickly falls. Connected to the one directing it, it soars.

Application

Identify one area of your life that you have struggled to surrender completely to Christ. Spend time today intentionally placing that area under His lordship.

Prayer

Father, forgive me for the times I seek to control my own life. Teach me what it means to live as Your servant. Help me trust that Your plans are better than my own, and give me the courage to surrender every part of my life to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

