

Raise your White Flag

Today we will: learn to surrender every aspect of our lives to God, because trust can only develop when we learn to let go.

Drill it down: as a verb it means cease resistance to an enemy or opponent and submit to their authority.

synonyms: capitulate, give in, give (oneself) up, yield, concede, submit, climb down, give way, defer, acquiesce, back down, cave in, relent, succumb, quit, crumble

Never give up, never surrender or turn back, keep fighting; these are phrases that I have long heard and have marinated on. “We don’t quit, we keep moving forward,” but I have concluded that there does exist a time when we need to surrender. Have you ever felt tired of the struggle of life? Have you reached a point when your hands were so exhausted that you could not hold them up?

A white flag has many meanings to so many people depending on their point of view, but today I want you to wave your white flag to God. Reasons to wave your white flag:

- 1) The color white means purity, righteousness and forgiveness. Begin to see yourself having value and importance. Surrender past hurts and accept God’s forgiveness for yourself. Don’t walk around with the shame of the past and raise your flag to declare today is a new day.

Isaiah 1:18

“Come now, **let us settle the matter**,” says the LORD. “**Though your sins are like scarlet**, they shall be as **white as snow**; though they are **red as crimson**, they shall be **like wool**. What does God say about your sin’s and all the mistakes you have made in the past?

Application:

- Note how God says “let’s settle the matter.” In other words, yield to God and be willing to accept His forgiveness.
 - God wants you to do some spring cleaning and empty out your old crimson wardrobe (clothing) for your new white suit.
 - If God forgives you that is more than enough. Allow God to define you and not the past guilt by surrounding your old identity for the new amazing you.
- 2) Be willing to let go and forget, because if God can let go and forget your past mistakes why not you? When you raise your flag, you are willing to leave what you once knew and enter into a new land of forgiveness which God has for you.

Psalm 103:12

...as far as the east is from the west, so far has he **removed** our **transgressions** from us.

What does it mean when God say's your sins are like the east is to the west?

Application:

- Learn to have short term memory. You don't have to carry the garbage bag of pain and guilt any more. Jesus deposited all of it in the land fill of His grace.
- When you give in to God's love, He removes the shackles that held you back and sends them so far that they become a distant memory.
- Allow God to use spiritual Comet on your heart because He is willing to do the work.

3) Raise your flag to declare you *quit*.

Q- Your quality of life changes

U- Choose the side of an undefeated God.

I-Leave your independence to depend on God.

T- Trust that God side is better than yours.

Exodus 14:14

¹⁴The LORD will **fight** for you; you need only to be **still**.”

Why is it important to be still in order for God to fight for you?

Application:

- When you remain still you allow God to work on your behalf.
- When you decide to fight it becomes your battle.
- When you relinquish the fight into God's hands life become easier to handle.

Do you have it?

1. When has there been a time where you have struggled to settle a problem or let go of a situation to God? What was the result?

2. Why is it so difficult to let go of past mistakes? (How does God want us approach past mistakes?)

3. List several benefits that occur when we allow God to fight on our behalf ?
