

# *Unconditional Surrender*

## *Lesson Three: No Limits*

**“I am the Lord’s servant, and I am willing to accept whatever he wants”** (Luke 1:38).

A limit is something that binds, restrains, and confines. It also suggests a boundary. How does placing limits on what you are willing to do and who you are willing to become restrict the Spirit-filled life?

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Do limits suggest an allegiance to your ideals and will? How?

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Is limiting God in your life disobedience? Look back at Lesson One.

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Having no limitations means “we make ourselves totally available to God’s will—whenever, wherever, and however He chooses.”<sup>1</sup>

### JONAH

Read Jonah 1:1-4:11. Why did Jonah “struggle with God’s call to service”?<sup>2</sup>

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What parameters did Jonah place around his service to the Lord?

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Whose will did Jonah prefer?

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How did Jonah attempt to push God away?

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Have you ever tried to do this? What happened?

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<sup>1</sup> Stanley, Charles. “Unconditional Surrender.” *In Touch*. (September 2005): 37.

<sup>2</sup> Youngblood, Ronald F., ed. *Nelson’s New Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995. 697.

WHO ARE YOU WILLING TO BECOME?

To surrender also means that we have “no restricted areas in our life where Jesus is not invited; nothing set apart for our own exclusive use.”<sup>3</sup>

Read John 2:1-12. What did the servants risk in following the instructions of Jesus?

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This was Jesus’ first display of glory. How did they know Jesus would turn the water into wine?

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Do you believe this made obedience to His request more difficult? Why or why not?

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Why are faith and trust imperative to limitless surrender?

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Define faith.

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Define trust.

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Read Hebrews 11:1 and Proverbs 3:5.

Read Mark 1:16 and Luke 5:1-11. How did the disciples show uninhibited devotion? What did they willingly give up?

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By not limiting personal sacrifice, what would they receive in heaven? Read Luke 12:33.

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In review, read Mark 10:29-30.

What did they trust the Lord to provide for them?

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<sup>3</sup> Stanley, 37.

Does God prepare you for sacrifice ahead of time? How was this done in the disciples' lives?

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How did the profession they left behind prepare them for service? (Look back at Luke 5:1-11.)

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Sometimes preparation is not easy. How did God "prepare" Jonah?

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The disciples had made themselves ready to follow Christ *when* He called. How does John 1:35-51 attest to this? Did it matter *where* they were, or *what* it required?

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Are you willing to become like these? If not, who are you willing to become?

#### WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DO?

Read Isaiah 20:2. Isaiah made himself totally available to God's will, no matter the implications. Would you draw the line if this was asked of you?

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How would you handle the extremity of this assignment?

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Does Isaiah's unconditional devotion reveal limitations you did not realize you had in your service to Christ?

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#### LIMITLESS

Read Luke 1:26-38. What do you think Mary considered as Gabriel was speaking? What and who was she risking?

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Mary surrendered to God as His willing servant. She believed God, and left the consequences to Him. She must have thought the cost was worth it! Mary was ready to faithfully obey God—whenever, wherever, and however He chose. Are you?

In review, how do limits hinder our relationship with God?

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A limit is also defined as a point, line, or edge where something ends or must end. It is a boundary or border beyond which something ceases to be, or to be possible. Galatians 2:20 says, **“I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”**

In closing, read Ephesians 3:14-21.

First Peter 4:19 says, **“Trust yourself to the God who made you, for he will never fail you...”**