



## Week 3- How to Give God What He Wants The Most: Part 1

Risk, Reason, and the Decision Making Process

Case Study #1 – John’s Civil War Coins

Case Study #2 – Sheila’s Picasso

### Questions to Ponder

1. What are the risks?
2. What are the potential rewards?
3. What would you do?
4. Why?

### 3 Principles for Making Big Decisions

1. In every big decision you need \_\_\_\_\_
2. In every big decision you need \_\_\_\_\_
3. In every big decision you need \_\_\_\_\_

### Biblical Case Study – Ancient Treasure

**<sup>44</sup> “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. <sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, <sup>46</sup> who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. – Matthew 13:44-46 (ESV)**

Observations

1. A man finds a treasure
2. He hides it again
3. He has an emotional response
4. He sells everything so he can get the treasurer

**KEY:** Total commitment is the \_\_\_\_\_ through which God’s biggest and blessings flow.

Definition: Total commitment is- “the alignment of one’s motives, resources, priorities, and goals to fulfil a specific mission, accomplish a specific task, or follow a specific person.”

Spiritual Insight – through which lens do you view total commitment?

<u>Positive</u>	vs.	<u>Negative</u>
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_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____



## Talk It Over:

**From your experience and observations, what are some fears that keep people from going all in?**

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**Paul says that the motivation for our surrender is God's mercy. What does God's mercy have to do with surrender?**

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**In what way is surrender to God like the commitment of marriage?**

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**Read the following prayer out loud (together or take turns individually). What part of this prayer resonates most with you? Why?**

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*“O God, be Thou exalted over my possessions. Nothing of earth’s treasures shall seem dear unto me if only Thou art glorified in my life. Be Thou exalted over my friendships. I am determined that Thou shalt be above all, though I must stand deserted and alone in the midst of the earth. Be Thou exalted over my comforts. Though it means the loss of bodily comforts and the carrying of heavy crosses, I shall keep my vow made this day before Thee. Be Thou exalted over my reputation. Make me ambitious to please Thee even if as a result I must sink into obscurity and my name be forgotten as a dream. Rise, O Lord, into Thy proper place of honor, above my ambitions, above my likes and dislikes, above my family, my health and even my life itself. Let me decrease that Thou mayest increase; let me sink that Thou mayest rise above. Amen.*

*~ A. W. Tozer ~*



## **Live It Out- B.I.O.**

### **B = COME “BEFORE GOD” DAILY**

**Meet with Him personally through prayer and His word to enjoy His presence, receive His direction, and follow His will.**

### **I = DO LIFE “IN COMMUNITY” WEEKLY**

**Structure your week to personally connect in safe relationships that provide love, support, transparency, challenge, and accountability.**

### **O = BE “ON MISSION” 24/7**

**Cultivate a mindset to live out Jesus’ love for others through acts of sacrifice as well as service at home, work, play, and church.**

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**COME BEFORE GOD**

**Psalm 84:11**

**For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing he does he withholds from those whose walk is blameless.**

What are some insights from this verse that help us in our journey to surrender?

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**DO LIFE IN COMMUNITY**

We have to constantly renew our surrender to God. How can the people in your group help you in your journey to live a life of total surrender?

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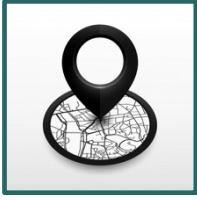
**BE ON MISSION**

How will our relationships with unbelievers change if we are surrendered to God?

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## Thinking Locally...

5. How does today's study apply to Heartland's mission to: "Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples?"

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6. How can this study speak into the concept of your "praying, investing and inviting" to help Heartland be all that it can be for the Kingdom of God and our community?

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