

Offering ~~Surrendering~~ Rights

When you prayed the Selfer's Prayer, you gave God blanket permission to make you into the kind of person He wants you to be. Surrendering rights is part of this process as you recognize that God is in control, and that He is using the details (circumstances) of your life to do just that.

As we look at giving up rights, it is helpful to consider the difference between desires, expectations, and rights.

There is nothing wrong with having a desire for something. Certainly, I can have desires, for example, for good relationships, i.e., marriage, friendships, dating, a healthy body, or a job I enjoy. The problem begins, first of all, when that desire becomes an expectation, because a lot of anger is generated when I have an unmet expectation. Then, often as time goes on, out of my own disappointment, that expectation becomes a right that I believe is mine. At some point when the desire becomes a right, I have crossed the line where I, the clay, am telling God, the Potter, how things should be in my life. (See Isaiah 45:9 & 64:8,

Jeremiah 18:6.) Often at this point, I can find myself fighting with God over this right. Also, if I keep holding on, I put myself in bondage to that right, and often it becomes a major focus in my life. My attitude seems to be, for example, I cannot be satisfied until my relationship is fixed.

In letting go, or surrendering the right, it is important to realize that I am giving it up to God, my Heavenly Father, Who loves me and wants His very best for me. In our example mentioned above, I still have a desire for a good marriage, but my contentment is not dependent on the state of my marriage. And, that is a great place of freedom. In essence, I am acknowledging that my life is not my relationships, my health, my job or anything else, but that Christ, indeed, is my life.

As a part of experiencing the exchange that has taken place at the cross, it is important, as you give up rights, to make that exchange (the reality of Isaiah 61). As you let go into God's hands what you are holding on to and controlling, wait before Him and ask Him what He wants you to receive from Him.

Let's take a look at your personal Taylor-Johnson scores and see if they can help us determine any areas of control which might require your willingness to surrender.

TJ SCORING

Lord, I am willing to...

Too Nervous
Too Composed

___ not be in control
___ get in touch with my emotions

Too Depressive
Too Lighthearted

___ give or receive forgiveness
___ be in touch with my emotions

Too Active-Social
Too Quiet

___ face myself and not be noticed by others
___ be involved and possibly rejected

Too Expressive-Responsive
Too Inhibited

___ be quiet and to follow
___ express thoughts and feelings, and possibly be hurt

Too Sympathetic
Too Indifferent

___ hurt with someone but not rescue them
___ allow people to get close to me and to care

Too Subjective
Too Objective

___ take authority away from my feelings and submit to Scripture
___ feel and listen to my feelings as well as the facts

Too Dominant
Too Submissive

___ give up the right to assert myself; to listen, follow, not control
___ be rejected, to confront, to express opinion, to look foolish

Too Hostile
Too Tolerant

___ forgive, to accept others unconditionally and to be hurt again
___ face hurts and break denial

Too Self-Disciplined
Too Impulsive

___ fail, and give up the right to gain worth through my performance
___ fail, delay gratification and be uncomfortable for awhile

Total Surrender - A Surrendering of All Rights Romans 12:1-2

Dear God, I surrender my right to...

- Function in the strength of my mind, emotions, and will
- A healthy, attractive body
- Plan my future
- Live where I want to live
- Be married, have a mate, a home, children
- Have my spouse (child, parent, friend, etc.) meet all my needs
- Be successful in my job or career
- Cling to the past with its successes, failures, hurts
- Have my habits
- Own anything
- Protect my time
- A good reputation
- Defy authority
- Acceptance from others
- Know the will of God
- A happy marriage, home, family or work environment
- Escape problems, difficulties or tragedies
- Take offense
- Avoid reaping what I sow
- Always be right
- Be loved
- Have visible security
- Be used of God
- See results
- Demand anything from God

Lord, I give You permission to do anything You wish - to me, with me, in me, or through me - which would glorify You.

I claimed these rights at one time to be mine, but now they all belong to You and are under Your control. You can do with them and with me anything You please. I know that this does not eliminate my responsibilities nor my obedience to You or Your word. Amen.

(Now wait before God asking what He wants to give you in exchange.)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Trusting Jesus as my Life means that moment by moment I am free to choose to:

**Give up the Right to
Be/Feel:**

Be Willing to Be/Feel:

Trust Christ as My:

Accepted	Rejected	Friend
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Identity
Understood	Misunderstood	Friend
In Control	Not in Control	Savior
Perfect	Make Mistakes	Adequacy
Successful	Fail	Identity
Seen as a Success	Seen as a Failure	Reputation
Strong	Weak	Protector
Angry/Hold a grudge	Forgive	Judge & Redeemer
Loved	Unloved	Security
Smart	Dumb	Wisdom
Made a Fool	Embarrassed	Reputation
Healthy	Sick	Strength & Peace
Treated Fairly	Mistreated	Protector
Right	Wrong	Wisdom
Comfortable	In Pain	Strength & Peace
Rescued	Abandoned	Protector
Listened to	Ignored	Friend
Encouraged	Put Down/Criticized	Confidence
Noticed	Ignored	Security
Appreciated	Taken for Granted	Identity
Respected	Made Insignificant	Reputation
Trusted	Viewed with Suspect	Confidence
Defend myself	Falsely Accused	Protector
Married	Single	Security
Financially Secure	Poor/Bankrupt	Wisdom/Safety