

## Overcoming Impulsive Spirituality

Matthew 26:47-58

*Peter walked on the water to go to Jesus, but he followed Him afar off on the land.*

(Oswald Cambers, *My Utmost*, Oct. 21)

### 1. What is impulsive spirituality?

- Choosing the **heroic** over the humble.

*With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.* —Matthew 26:51

- Choosing trying over **training**.

*Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour?"<sup>38</sup> Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."*

—Mark 14:37-38

“Spiritual disciplines ... allow us to do what we cannot do by will power alone. So practices such as reading Scripture and praying are important not because they prove how spiritual we are but because God can use them to lead us into the kingdom life He offers.”

John Ortberg's, The Life You've Always Wanted. (*Participant's Guide*, 20)

- Choosing your own place of **sacrifice**.

*But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same.* —Mark 14:31

- Choosing to do **exceptional** things rather than being **exceptional** in ordinary things.

*And whoever wants to be first must be your slave—<sup>28</sup> just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

—Matthew 20:27-28

### 2. Sacrificial **Surrender** is the cure for impulsive spirituality.

*"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."*

—Galatians 2:20

- Be **crucified** with Christ?

*"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus ... he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!"*

—Philippians 2:5, 8

*“These words mean the breaking of my independence with my own hand and surrendering to the supremacy of the Lord Jesus.”*

(Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost*, Nov. 3)

- Allow Christ to **live** in you.

*“I am crucified with Christ, but I am still alive, but Christ is living in me.”*

—Galatians 2:20a

*“The passion of Christianity is that I deliberately sign away my own rights and become a bond-slave of Jesus Christ.”*

(*My Utmost*, Nov 3)

Christ’s **unhindered** way with your life is:

- The **key** to overcoming impulsive spirituality
- An introduction to Spiritual **power** in the Christ-filled life.
- The **secret** to joy and peace and purpose in the Christ-centered life.

Memory Verse:

*“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*

—Galatians 2:20