

Mt. Zion  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
LENT

## DEVOTIONAL WEEK 3 – Surrender for Survival

Midway during the movie, "Black Panther," the hero named T'Challa has a duel with an anti-hero named M'Baku, for the throne of Wakanda. M'Baku found himself losing during this duel and decided to surrender during this match to live and preserve his tribe. At the end of the movie, M'Baku reappears along with his tribe to help T'Challa defeat the greater evil that threatened the kingdom of Wakanda. While M'Baku is not the hero of the movie, his decision to surrender to the rightful king allowed for him to accomplish 2 tasks; 1) share in the victory and 2) survive.

Often times, the notion of "surrender" carries a negative connotation; it implies that someone has lost during a confrontation. However, in our movie example, surrendering actually allows for survival to happen. M'Baku would've died in his duel, but instead he was able to show up for the victory in the end. The same can happen in our lives. When we decide to surrender to the rightful king, we are granted access to the victory in the end.

Every day we engage in a war of wills – God's will and our own. It's a war to determine who is the rightful King in our lives. Surrendering to God doesn't mean we lose. In fact, it grants us access to the victory in the end. During this Lenten season, let's grow in our ability to surrender to the will of Jesus. When we surrender we can have confidence that we'll reappear in victory.

### Daily Scripture

Monday – Matthew 16:24

Tuesday – James 4:7

Wednesday – Matthew 7:21

Thursday – Matthew 16:25

Friday – 2 Corinthians 5:10

Saturday – Acts 2:38

### Daily Prayer

Lord, I pray for your daily power to submit to your will. Help me to trust your path and plan for my life. Whenever I am faced with a difficult decision, show me your will, and give me the strength to follow. I desire to pray the words Jesus prayed, "Not my will but YOUR will be done." Today, help me to submit to you. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

### Daily Growth

There are moments in our lives where we willingly surrender our thoughts, words, and actions to the wrong things. This is an attack of the enemy. The devil looks for opportunities to have you think any decision contrary to your own is not in your best interest. God has your best interests in mind. Therefore, submitting to God is best.