

## LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

**Message Series:** Giving Up  
**Message Title:** Giving Up The Win  
**Speaker:** Lance Burch  
**Date:** February 18, 2018

### UP NEXT

- **Marriage Conference** (March 3) - Couples both married and engaged will benefit from practical sessions addressing marriage benefits like communication, forgiveness, purity, humility, and making sex mutually fulfilling. Join us for a day that will be a highlight for your marriage! Saturday, March 3rd. (8:00am - 4:00pm) \$55/couple (includes resources, snacks, and evening comedy show). Register at [reality.church/events](http://reality.church/events).
- **Comedy Night** (March 3) - Church-wide event at 7:00pm. The belly laughs begin with the comedy team of Barnes & Miner. They've written for/appeared on ESPN, HBO, NBC, FOX, Comedy Central, Jay Leno, Jack Black and more! \$10/ticket - *\*If you are attending the Married With Benefits Marriage Conference, your tickets for this event are already included in your conference cost.* Register at [reality.church/events](http://reality.church/events).
- **Have questions about God, Jesus, the Bible?** - Check out **Square One**, a new class for those Seeking truth, Starting a relationship with Jesus, or Returning to church after some time away. Square One begins March 4<sup>th</sup> and will be on Sunday mornings during the 10:45 service. Space is very limited so find out more information today at [reality.church/squareone](http://reality.church/squareone).

### MAIN IDEA

Choose to Lose

### INTRODUCTION

*"Mawwiage. Mawwiage is wat bwings us togeder today. Mawwiage, that bwessed awwangement, that dweam wifin a dweam... And wuv, twue wuv, will fowwow you foweve... So tweasure your wuv—"*

The Impressive Clergyman from *Princess Bride*

- We need examples in life. In almost every area of life we need to see something modeled to truly understand it. Relationships are no different. If your desire is to "tweasure your wuv" for life it helps if you can see that modeled. Probably the best example we have in this area is Jesus. Don't freak out, I'm not suggesting Jesus was married. Jesus modeled to us how to love our spouses well when He modeled Humility and Submission.
- According to [Philippians 2:6-8](#), Jesus was equal to God. This equality is important because of how he acted. He did not use this equality for his own advantage but rather took on the nature of a servant. Servants serve. He humbled himself and became obedient to what was needed for our sake (dying on the cross for our benefit).
- When you read the Bible, you begin to see some God-given authority structures form in the area of mutual submission.
  - 1) God submits to Jesus (John 5:22-23)
  - 2) Jesus submits to God (John 8:28)
  - 3) The Holy Spirit submits to God and Jesus (John 16:13)
  - 4) Men submit to the headship of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:3)

- 5) Wives submit to their husbands (1 Peter 3:1)
- 6) Husbands submit their actions to love for their wives (Ephesians 5:25)
- 7) Children submit to their parents (Colossians 3:20)
- 8) Everyone submits to God (Proverbs 23:22; Acts 5:29)
- 9) Employees submit to their employers (Colossians 3:22-23)
- 10) Everyone submits to the governing authorities (1 Peter 2:13)
- 11) Everyone submits to one another (Ephesians 5:21)

## DISCUSSION .....

- Did you grow up in a competitive family?
- How is the desire to 'win' displayed in your marriage, relationship, and/or friendships?
- What is the difference between Obedience and Submission?
  - Submission includes a *voluntary yielding* and Obedience is more of a *compliance*.
  - Submission is an *inner attitude* and Obedience is an *outer act*.
  - Have someone read [1 Samuel 16:7](#) in light of the above definition and discuss.
  - Are both necessary?
- Giving up the need to 'win' in your marriage, relationship, and/or friendships obviously involves submission. However, is there ever a time when it's acceptable for you to not submit?
  - Short answer: Submission stops at the threshold of violating God's moral principals.
- Who is better at 'Giving Up the Win' in your marriage or relationships (you or the other)?
- Why is it difficult for you to 'Give Up the Win'? *OR* Why is it natural for you to 'Give Up the Win'?
- Have someone read [\(Ephesians 5:31-33\)](#)
  - If married, what are some ways your spouse does well at living out this passage?
  - If not married, what are some things you can begin doing to improve in this area?

## APPLY IT .....

- Lance listed seven practical steps you can take beginning today in your marriage and/or relationships.
  - Listen
  - Respond
  - Resolve
  - Do
  - Stop
  - Endure
  - Prioritize
- Of these steps, which is easier for you and which are more difficult?
- What are you going to do this week to focus on one or more of these?