

## Sermon Notes

**Big Idea:** It's been said, "Everybody wants to go to heaven, but nobody wants to die." This is the essence of the Gospel according to Jesus, that in order to save your life, you must lose your life. As counterintuitive as it may seem, there is indeed hope in *giving up*, there is hope in confessing *I can't*, there is hope in learning to *surrender*, and there is even hope in life after *death*. This Easter, discover the Resurrection Hope offered only in Jesus Christ. Come find yourself in Him.

The UNFORTUNATE prequalification for a resurrection is DEATH.

Colossians 3:1-4 (ESV)

Judges 6:11-16; 7:19-22 (NIV)

### Learning to Die Means:

#### 1. Rejecting your feelings of INADAQUENCY and WEAKNESS

- Inadequacy is based on:
  - o Unrealistic CRITICISM
  - o Unrealistic COMPLIMENTS
  - o Unrealistic COMPARISON

#### 2. Abandoning your own sense of POWER and STRENGTH

#### 3. Surrendering your PRIDE and the ultimate OUTCOME

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- 2) Think about a time in your life when you felt oppressed by external circumstances. How did God show up when you needed Him?
- 3) Read Judges 6:13 and 6:15. When do you feel/When have you felt like you were weak and inadequate? Why do you think it's difficult to see yourself how God sees you?
- 4) Give an example of a time you attempted something in your own strength and found it wasn't enough. What happened that made you realize you needed to die to your own strength and rely on the power of the Holy Spirit?
- 5) Gideon finds out that his army is too big for God to use. Someone once said we have everything we need to accomplish everything God has called us to accomplish. Where have you lacked faith in trusting that you have all you need right now? What is one situation where you need to surrender the outcome to God?