

Journey towards the Cross

Topic:

Surrender opens to God's will.

Bible Portion:

Luke 22:42

Focus:

Gethsemane: Surrender
to God's will.



March 31, 2026

A daily devotional for lent season

40-Day Gospel Reading Plan

Bible Readings for Today

John 15-16



Have you Read your
Bible today?

Memory Verse for the day

**“Greater love has no
one than this, that
someone lay down his
life for his friends.”**

John 15:13 (ESV)

Quote

**“In acceptance lieth
peace.”**

- Amy Carmichael.

Lent is a time of self-denial and spiritual discipline—a time to die to sin and rise with Christ. Jesus came into the world to take upon Himself the sins of humanity, fulfilling the mission given by God the Father. As the day of His crucifixion drew near, He was deeply distressed and withdrew with His disciples to Gethsemane to pray. Facing suffering and death on the cross, He pleaded with the Father to remove the cup of suffering. Yet, in His humanity, He entrusted Himself to God's will.

Jesus surrendered His will to God's will

But then Jesus, knowing His purpose in coming into this world, surrendered His will to God and said, “Not my will but Thy will be done.” He overcame His human desire and surrendered to the divine plan.

1. Surrendering to God's will is an act of trust—trusting that God's plans are more meaningful and higher than ours (Proverbs 3:5–6), and obedience that shows our humble heart in submitting to God's commandments. God's will holds supreme authority.

2. Surrendering to God's will brings peace (Psalms 46:10). Once we put our burdens upon Him, He gives us peace of mind. After surrender, we see Jesus calm and peaceful. He received the inner power and strength to bear pain and suffering. In the midst of such terrible agony, He remained peaceful. The persecutors thought that Jesus would lose His control, speak against the authorities, and say harsh words, but He remained calm because it was no longer His will, but God's will in action.

3. Surrendering to God's will is not giving up, but giving over. It means giving

over our will, our needs, and our ideas to the Almighty God who cares for us and is always with us. Giving up means losing hope and the future, but giving over means entrusting them to someone powerful and able to sustain them. Jesus did exactly the same.

4. Surrendering to God's will means complete dependency on God, who works in us even in times of suffering and trials, when our future seems uncertain and we do not know what tomorrow holds.

5. Surrendering to God's will is entering into God's safe hands. It is not easy; it demands total submission

and surrender of every aspect of life to God alone. Jesus did the same even in things He did not want to face. Without submission to God, we cannot overcome our weaknesses and shortcomings.

6. Surrendering to God's will brings freedom. When we place ourselves in the hands of a faithful God, He begins to work for our freedom. "Not my will, but Yours be done." God created man in His own image and likeness. But since man sinned and fell short of the glory of God, he became a slave to sin. To give freedom from sin, God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus, who left His glory in heaven and gave His life and blood on the cross to deliver us from slavery. He rose again on the third day to give us new life and everlasting presence in heaven. This reveals the path of redemption from creation to resurrection. Hallelujah.



Conclusion:

Lent is a powerful opportunity to renew our faith, turn away from sin, and prepare our hearts for Resurrection Day. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we walk with Christ on His journey to the Cross and experience the joy of His Resurrection. Let us embrace this sacred season with devotion, seeking deeper conversion and a closer relationship with God.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help us to surrender ourselves fully to You in this Lenten season. Teach us to trust You and find peace and freedom in Your will. Shape us, lead us, and use us for Your glory. Amen.

- Rev. Sunil Jagannath Awale



Prayer Point

Let us pray for Rev. Sandeep Janardhan Waghmare, Rev. Sanjay Pratap Salvi, Rev. Shalu T. Mathew, Rev. Shekar Bhagchand Jadhav, Rev. Shimon Victor Samuel, and Rev. Soji A. Thomas and for their families and the churches entrusted to them.

