# Grace Notes Radio Program THEME: POWER

SET 04: Power in surrender – part 2

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. Barbara Sandbek has been discussing the subject of Power. Today she will take an in-depth look into the subject of crucifying ourselves for better living. Why not get out your Bible and follow along.

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The person who penned this writing understood the importance of dependence on God.

Dear God,

So far today, I've done the right thing. I haven't gossiped.
I haven't lost my temper. I haven't lied or cheated. I haven't broken my diet. I haven't been grumpy, greedy, nasty, selfish or overindulgent. I've very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to have to get out of bed, and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot more help. AMEN

We choose to depend on everything but GOD...even computers

Look how 'up tight' we all were at the Y2K threat.

But when we surrender ourselves to God, He gives us freedom from fear, and freedom to be what He made us to be.

#### Yielding

By Barbara Sandbek
God is faithful to His word - He never fails
He promised He would be right by our side
Through all life's problems, toil and strife we can prevail
For He is always there to be our Guide
He'd said He'd show Himself to be our dearest Friend
But we need to be STILL so we can see
His workings in our life we'll never comprehend
Until we give Him REIGN to set us free
A PRISONER I will always be if I don't choose
to let Him have His perfect way with me
So help me Lord to walk Your path so I don't lose
the chance to be the person I should be.

### Romans 6:3-7 says...

All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into His death. We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the Glory of the Father, we, too, may live a NEW life. If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. For we know that our OLD SELF was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be done away with that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

## Romans 12:1 says...

I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God that you PRESENT your BODIES a living sacrifice, HOLY, ACCEPTABLE unto God, which is your reasonable service.

So how do we crucify ourselves and still live?

Let's take this verse and break it down.

The verse begins with 'I beseech you THEREFORE brethren (or Believers), we need to look at the previous verse to see what 'therefore' referred to. It said, "Who has ever given to God that God should repay him?"

That helps us understand that whatever God is going to ask of us, is nothing compared to what He's done and continues to do for us.

It continues with, 'by the mercies of God', or 'in light of God's mercy. Mercy is pity and compassion for the ills of others (us). Here's what God can and rightly should be able to expect from us, His undeservent children –

'Present, or offer, your bodies (our complete person) a living SACRIFICE.'

Have you ever wondered why God used the word 'sacrifice' to describe our gift to him.

Under the law, the priests offered animal sacrifices daily to atone for the people's sin. These could never take away their sin. But according to Hebrews 10: 10, Jesus made us holy through the sacrifice of his body, once for all. Christ's one time sacrifice for sin was enough for us all, for eternity, because He was the perfect, sinless Lamb of God.

Christ's sacrifice was beneficial to us, but how is our sacrifice beneficial to Him?

When King Hezekiah was restoring the worship of Jehovah to Israel, God told him to minister before HIM FIRST, then go and minister to the needs of the people. When we offer ourselves to God first, and let Him have control, He will channel our efforts effectively so that they will benefit others as well.

There were five main sacrifices in Old Testament times.

If more than one sacrifice (or offering) was given at a time, there was a definite order. I believe that this is how we, as Believers, need to come to God as the acceptable, living sacrifice He desires us to be.

#### Here's the order:

- 1). The sin offering was for cleansing from defilement, and involved the confession of sin and receiving of forgiveness.
- 2). The guilt offering was similar to the sin offering but was done for sins that involved restitution.

We need to openly confess our sin to God, daily for fellowship.

1 John 1:9 says...If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If necessary, we need to make restitution, as God directs, for the

offenses against a brother. We must settle this first before moving on.

3). The burnt offering was a voluntary act of worship – an expression of devotion, commitment and complete surrender to God.

Complete surrender is giving God your HEART.
Without a heart, a body can't function. A burnt offering was wholly consumed. As we let God wholly consume our body, His thoughts can then become ours.

4). The fellowship and grain offerings were also voluntary acts of worship to show fellowship, thanksgiving and a recognition of God's provision. Communion with God was established with these.

Communion can only take place when there is sufficient time to build the relationship. Don't neglect this, because there is power in praise and power in His presence.

The passage continues with "Holy, acceptable until God". Sacrifices had to be without defeat (which is cleansed from sin, for us). We're considered righteous to God through the blood of Christ.

Sacrifices were to be given from the giver's firstfruits (not the leftovers). God want US first, then our deeds.

"Which is your reasonable service". It is also translated "spiritual act of worship". Worship is ascribing worth (or worthship) to someone. This involves our time, thoughts, words and deeds.

They say that imitation is the highest form of praise. Jesus said that He only ever did what He saw His Father doing. I guess the bottom line to all of this is that we should offer our lives up to God and intimate Christ, asking "What would Jesus DO, SAY or THINK in this situation?", and then allow time for the Holy Spirit to lead before we proceed.

\*\*\* WE ARE AN OFFERING \*\*\*

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