

Transformed

From Fighting God to Surrendering to Him

Reflect

- 1) In your view, what does fighting with God look like in real life?
- 2) What does surrendering to God look like to you?
- 3) Is it more common to fight with God or to surrender to Him? Why?
- 4) What might be the results in a person's life of surrendering to God?

Read Your Bible

- Acts 5:33-39
- Luke 19:1-10

Apply God's Word to Your Life

- 1) The Jewish leadership wanted to kill the disciples of Jesus for preaching that Jesus was raised from the dead. What do you think of Gamaliel's advice to the Jewish leadership?
- 2) As humans we cannot always see God's plan playing out in the present. Why is patience so important in surrendering to God?
- 3) What other attributes are important in surrendering to God's will for your life?
- 4) Imagine the dinner conversation that Jesus and Zacchaeus had. What do you think was said?
- 5) In what ways are you fighting against God in your life?
- 6) Zacchaeus by his actions showed he was working at surrendering to God. What actions do you need to put into play in your life to move from fighting God to surrendering to Him?

As human beings living in a broken world, we, by our very nature, are going to fight against God. Our sin combined with our short-sighted view of what God is up to in this world can have us at odds with God. Like the Jewish leadership wanting to kill the disciples for preaching the resurrection of Jesus, we too may be opposing God and His plans for us. Our challenge is to learn to put into practice actions that move us towards surrendering to God's will and work in our lives. Like Zacchaeus we need to invite Jesus into our lives on a regular basis. Having a conversation with Jesus daily changes you. We need to open our hearts to the work of the Spirit's activity so that the fruit of the Spirit (see Galatians 5:22) becomes second nature to us. Transformation happens as we act to move from fighting against God to surrendering our lives to God.

Pray: Dear Lord, I want Your ways to become my ways. I confess by my thoughts and actions I often am fighting against You. Forgive me. As You knock at the door of my heart, I will do my best to invite You into my life and have a daily conversation with You. Set Your Spirit loose in my life so the fruit of the Spirit's activity becomes central to my life. My heart's desire is to lay down my life to You and Your ways. Transform me Lord, from fighting against You to surrendering to You, I pray. Amen.