

BAGGAGE CLAIM: FINDING FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Day Four: Freedom in Surrender

Scripture: *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”* – Matthew 11:28

Airports have a rule: you can’t take everything with you. Bags have weight limits. Too heavy, and you’ll pay for it—or worse, you won’t be allowed to board. Spiritually, the same is true. We keep trying to move forward while dragging oversized loads of control, fear, regret, and responsibilities that aren’t even ours. No wonder we’re exhausted.

Jesus offers a different invitation: *“Come to me... and I will give you rest.”* Notice, He doesn’t say, “Keep dragging your bags and I’ll cheer you on.” He says, “Lay them down. Trade them in. Let Me carry what you can’t.” That’s surrender.

But surrender is hard. We like to grip the handle of our “carry-ons” tightly. Control feels safer. If we let go, who will handle it? Yet surrender doesn’t mean abandonment—it means exchange. When we surrender, we give God our baggage in return for His peace. We hand Him our restless striving and He hands us rest.

Think about it: what if you could walk through life like a traveler who hands every heavy bag to a porter? You’d move faster, lighter, freer. That’s what Jesus wants for you. He’s not asking you to be careless—He’s inviting you to *care less about what you were never meant to control* and trust Him instead.

Reflection:

- What are you gripping too tightly—fear, control, an unhealthy relationship, regret from the past, or anxiety about the future?
- What would it look like for you to place it in Jesus' hands today and truly walk away lighter?
- If Jesus were standing at your "baggage claim," which bag would you finally be ready to hand Him?

Challenge: Take a physical action. Write one word on a sticky note that represents what you need to surrender—"fear," "control," "regret," "worry." Place it on your Bible, and every time you see it, say aloud: *"Lord, this belongs to You, not me."*

Prayer:

Jesus, I've been carrying bags that are too heavy for me. Today, I lay them down at Your feet. Teach me to surrender, not out of weakness but out of trust. Exchange my burdens for Your rest. Help me to live light, free, and fully dependent on You. In Jesus Name We Pray, AMEN!