# *Absolute Surrender* STUDY GUIDE

Andrew Murray offers to us in "Absolute Surrender" his desire to see the Church completely dependent on Christ. The beauty of Murray's message will show the reader the way to walk in Christ's love and peace. The reader is presented with the belief that the greatest need of the Church and of believers is that there needs to be absolute surrender to God.

## About the Author

Andrew Murray (1828–1917) was an amazingly prolific Christian writer. He lived and ministered as both a pastor and author in the towns and villages of South Africa. Some of Murray's earliest works were written to provide nurture and guidance to Christians, whether young or old in the faith; they were actually an extension of his pastoral work. Once books such as *Abide in Christ, Divine Healing*, and *With Christ in the School of Prayer* were written, Murray became widely known, and new books from his pen were awaited with great eagerness throughout the world.

He wrote to give daily practical help to many of the people in his congregation who lived out in the farming communities and could come into town for church services only on rare occasions. As he wrote these books of instruction, Murray adopted the practice of placing many of his more devotional books into thirty-one separate readings to correspond with the days of the month.

At the age of seventy-eight, Murray resigned from the pastorate and devoted most of his time to his manuscripts. He continued to write profusely, moving from one book to the next with an intensity of purpose and a zeal that few men of God have ever equaled. He often said of himself, rather humorously, that he was like a hen about to hatch an egg; he was restless and unhappy until he got the burden of the message off his mind.

One source has said of Andrew Murray that his prolific style possesses the strength and eloquence that are born of deep earnestness and a sense of the solemnity of the issues of the Christian life. Nearly every page reveals an intensity of purpose and appeal that stirs men to the depths of their souls. Murray moves the emotions, searches the conscience, and reveals the sins and shortcomings of many of us with a love and hope born out of an intimate knowledge of the mercy and faithfulness of God.

For Andrew Murray, prayer was considered our personal home base from which we live our Christian lives and extend ourselves to others. During his later years, the vital necessity of unceasing prayer in the spiritual life came to the forefront of his teachings. It was then that he revealed the secret treasures of his heart concerning a life of persistent and believing prayer. Countless people the world over have hailed Andrew Murray as their spiritual father and given credit for much of their Christian growth to the influence of his priceless devotional books.

#### **ABSOLUTE SURRENDER**

Why do we need to surrender to God?

How is it accomplished?

How is it maintained?

What is the blessing of surrender?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

*Prayer: Father, help me to give you my absolute surrender. IN Jesus name, Amen.* 

#### **"THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE"**

Why is it important to have more of the Holy Spirit?

Why isn't more love shown in our churches?

What new commandment did Jesus give?

If the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts, why is it difficult to love certain people?

Who in your life do you need to yield to love and not to self?

Why is it important not just to have the power to do the work but to love as well?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

*Prayer: Father, let love be an indwelling power for self-sacrifice in me. In Jesus name, Amen.* 

#### SEPARATED UNTO THE HOLY SPIRIT

God has His own plans and will for His Kingdom, how do we receive the orders?

According to Murray, what does "Separated unto the Holy Spirit" mean?

Why is it a must to partner with the Holy Spirit?

What are some ways the Holy Spirit has revealed his will to you?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

*Prayer: Lord, may I be separated unto the Holy Spirit and do your will. In Jesus name, amen.* 

#### PETER'S REPENTANCE

At what point was Peter's conversion from self to Christ?

What are some signs of living in self-life?

In what areas have you experienced pleasure in denying yourself?

In "Peter's Repentance", what was the first lesson?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

Prayer: Lord, show me areas where I am living in self. Then, help me to humble myself before you to deliver me from the power of self. In Jesus name, Amen.

#### IMPOSSIBLE WITH MAN, POSSIBLE WITH GOD

What have God made possible that was impossible with man?

What does Ephesians 3:16 read?

What is your response to God doing the work for and in you?

God's work and gifts are freely given, yet it is hard sometimes to receive them, why?

Do you believe the cost of self is worth giving up to God? Why or Why not?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

*Prayer: Mighty God, I claim your almightiness, do what I cannot do, only you can, through me. In Jesus name, amen.* 

#### "O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM!"

Considering the 4 languages of man, where on the path might you find yourself?

Why do we struggle in trying to do it ourselves?

In your words, how do we get from the regenerate man to the surrendered man?

When is the Holy Spirit needed?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

*Prayer: Holy Spirit, come have your way in me In Jesus Name, Amen.* 

#### "HAVING BEGUN IN THE SPIRIT"

How is it that believers do not live up to their privileges?

Read Galatians 3:1-5. How did the Galatians receive the Spirit?

The beginning of the true Christian life is to receive the Holy Spirit. Why do we find ourselves in the flesh?

What area(s) in your life are you tempted to perfect in the flesh what should be done in the Spirit?

What is the difference between a person doing spiritual things and being spiritual?

What should the Church look like to as seen in the Bible?

What hinders the Church work and power from within?

Are you living as an anointed, Spirit-filled believer in your ministry/work and your life before God? If no, are you willing to give yourself up to the power of the Holy Spirit?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

Prayer: Father, thank you for delighting to help us. Restore and strengthen us with might by your Spirit in the inner man, In Jesus Name, Amen.

#### **KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD**

What does the author mean when he says, "Keeping Includes All"?

Explain "Keeping Requires Power":

How is "Keeping Continuous"?

How does having omnipotent God engaged to bless you, change your mind about challenges?
Based on Phil 2:13, what can we expect God to do for us?
Why is God drawn to faith in helplessness?
How does faith imply fellowship?
What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

*Prayer: My God, let my life be proof of what your omnipotence can do. In Jesus Name, Amen.* 

#### **"YE ARE THE BRANCHES"**

Describe the relationship between the branches and the vines:

How does it apply to you?

In what ways do you show your dependence on God?

How does abiding in the vine bring "Deep Restfulness"?

Why is it important to bear much fruit?

What is the application to your life for "Abiding Communion"?

What is the Lord saying to you?

What scripture(s) spoke to you?

Share what absolute surrender means to you in your own words:

*Prayer: Father, may I be absolutely surrendered to you. In Jesus Name, Amen.*