

Hope Through Sacrifice

December 28, 2025

Discussion Questions:

1. What's one thing in your life right now that takes up more time or attention than you'd like?
2. When you think about obedience in relationships, does it feel more rooted in trust, love, or obligation? Why is that?
3. Read John 15:14 aloud. How have you seen obedience (or lack of it) impact your closeness with Jesus personally?
4. In the sermon, Nathan said, "Hope is on the other side of surrender." Where have you seen surrender lead to hope, freedom, or life? (This could be in your life or someone else's.)
5. Luke 8 uses a parable of a seed among thorns to describe how the Word is crowded out of our lives by like cares, riches, and pleasures. What kinds of "thorns" are most likely to crowd out your spiritual growth right now? How can you cut the thorns back and allow space for your own growth?
6. Which of the three next steps—Surrender, Serve, or Simplify—feels most urgent for you right now? What is one practical step you could take as we begin a new year?