

Crucified  
Message 1: My Control  
Gal 2:20, Matt. 6:9-13

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Pure Heart  
March 29 & 30, 2025

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# Control Message Notes

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# Heart Crew Participant Guide

For the week of March 29 & 30, 2025

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## Welcome to the Spring Semester of Heart Crews!

This week we kick off our Spring, Heart Crew semester!! We hope you are excited! At your first meeting, you will take time to get acquainted with members of your crew, as well as discuss the Heart Crew Covenant.

This week's guide is a little shorter to provide ample time.

To prepare for your crew, attend or watch the weekend service, and take time to focus on the questions below. Be prepared to share your answers with your crew. Have a great first meeting as you come together to become more like Jesus for the sake of others.

## My Story

1. Why did you join a Heart Crew this semester? What are you looking forward to most in your Crew?
2. As we start thinking about the weekend message, tell a story about a time you tried to control a situation and just made it worse.
3. What is something that stood out, challenged, confused, or touched you in the message this weekend?

## Digging Deeper

1. This weekend, Pastor Dan encouraged us to think about what we are trying to control in our lives that we should be surrendering to God. As we think about this, let's read Genesis 22:1-3
  - a. This is such a hard story to read. Take a few minutes to really imagine this day and all that was happening. How do you think Abraham felt when God asked him to sacrifice Isaac?
  
2. It's hard to think about what this would have been like for both Abraham and Isaac. God is often asking us to give up much less and we have a hard time with those requests. Let's keep reading Genesis 22:4-8.
  - a. Here we see Isaac ask his father where the lamb is. Abraham responds, "God will provide." What does this tell us about Abraham's faith?
  
3. Abraham had to have an incredible amount of faith in God to surrender and bind his son and lay him on the altar. Read Genesis 22:9-12 to see how God responds to Abraham's faith.
  - a. Abraham was willing to lay everything on the altar in obedience to God. What is something in your life that you struggle to surrender to God's control?

4. Thankfully, God had another plan for Abraham and Isaac this day, let's finish up with Genesis 22:13-19.
  - a. What does God do, and what does this reveal about God's character?
  
5. To really understand Abraham's confidence in God, we have to go back and read Genesis 17:1-22. Write down all that God promises to Abraham.
  - a. How might this interaction with God, and Isaac's subsequent birth have influenced Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac?
  
6. Think about your own life right now. What is something you struggle to surrender to God's will? What are you afraid will happen if you surrender control?

### **TAKING IT HOME**

Abraham was 75 years old when he finally became a father, and then he was asked to give up his own will for the will of God. However, God had already promised Abraham that Isaac would have many descendants. Abraham could rely on this promise when God asked him to do the unimaginable. We also have been promised a good future with God. This week write down Jeremiah 29:11 and Romans 8:28, and work on memorizing them. As you do, ask God to help you release control to Him.