



t e l l   t h e   s t o r y

*MAIN IDEA*

## DEAD MEN DON'T CARE

THE SURRENDERED LIFE IN THE AGE OF PROTEST

*Matthew 5:38-42 | Colossians 3:1-17 | Galatians 2:20 | James 4:6*

---

### KEY THOUGHTS

- It's not about you - it's about the glory of God.
- Jesus invites us to follow the "way of the Cross" instead of the way of personal rights.
- Meekness is not weakness.
- A kingdom-first life is willing to surrender its rights, desires and goals for the glory of God and the good of others.
- God resists the proud but He pours out His grace on the humble (James 4:6) - when we fight for our rights, God watches, but when we surrender our rights - He fights for us.
- Getting even, even getting justice for ourselves is natural but Jesus here asks us to live a supernatural life of surrendering our personal rights if it means that our witness for Jesus will advance. This is a difficult request indeed.
- The word "resist" in verse 39, translates the word *anthistemi*, also used for "take legal action against." Not only did Jesus command against getting back at someone physically, but he commanded against "getting back" by any other means as well.
- The world advocates getting even, looking out for oneself, and protecting one's "personal rights." Jesus' followers, however, were told to hold loosely to their "personal rights," preferring to forgo those rights for the sake of bearing witness to the gospel and the kingdom.

#### **Surrendering my rights**

**When I surrender my rights, I release control and invite God to work on my behalf.**



t e l l   t h e   s t o r y

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What is Biblical meekness?
2. What did Jesus mean when He said “the meek will inherit the earth”?
3. If I have been “Crucified with Christ” how should that affect the way I live and make decisions?
4. What does a surrendered life look like? - For you! (The way of the Cross)
5. How can you be a “second mile” person this week?

**THE SECOND MILE**

In an unequal power situation, you have no choice about the first mile. The soldier has the sword, so you carry his gear. And it’s a mile and an hour you can never get back. You’re the loser.

What should you do?

The second mile is your choice. It’s your way of saying, “God is in control here. He gives me energy, and a mere mile does not exhaust me. That sword is nothing; God is everything. Do you want to know where the real power lies? Try to keep up with me and I’ll tell you.”