



# all in

finding true life on  
the path to total  
surrender

**STUDY GUIDE**

**VIDEOS**

Watch these for additional insights not included in the book! Watch as Mike explains, shares, and expands the *All In* journey. These will be especially helpful to engage those students who are unlikely to read each chapter.

**TEACHING POINTS (OPTIONAL)**

These teaching points are merely a recommendation. The study is designed to work with just the video and discussion time. However, these additional points will help expand the amount of time in which your group can interact with the content. Feel free to use these, personalize them, or skip them altogether! Be sure to leave as much time as possible for the group discussion.

**QUESTIONS**

The Q and A section is meant to give students a forum to open up and share what God is teaching them through the book. Try to create an atmosphere where people feel comfortable being open and sharing.

The goal is not to necessarily guide the conversation in a general direction but rather to draw out of them what they are learning. You may ask the first question, the discussion takes off from there and you never get to the other questions—that's OK. As long as the conversation is not way off course, do your best to let it form organically.

Don't feel pressure to get through all the questions. That's not the goal, and more often than not, you probably won't. They are just suggestions to stir the conversation. The questions aren't

in any particular order, so don't feel compelled to go straight through them like a presentation.

Try to resist the urge to teach during this time. It's perfectly okay to pose questions or interject truth when necessary, but if you start teaching too much, it will turn into a time of people simply looking to you and not a discussion. Even if someone says something wrong, rather than correcting it right away, you may want to ask, "What do the rest of you think about that?"

**APPLICATION**

Close each discussion by asking a "now what?" question: "How are you going to alter the way you live this week as a result of what you've learned?" The point of this is to reinforce that we don't experience change by simply learning, discussing, or receiving truth—we must do something. We receive change as we apply truth to our lives each day. Let students know that everyone will get a chance to share their experiences from living out their application points at your next meeting.

Each subsequent week, open the discussion by giving people an opportunity to share testimonies of how they applied truth to their lives and what happened. This will continue to reinforce the need for application in their lives.

This will help keep a healthy focus on being doers of the Word and not hearers only (James 1:22). ■

## VIDEO

### TEACHING POINTS (OPTIONAL)

Share testimonies of times you have camped out and how it may have cost you, and/or share times where you were willing to obey and keep climbing and what you learned or gained through the experience.

Share how some of God's promises have become real to you. Perhaps use some examples of experiencing peace that passes understanding in stressful situations or God providing enduring joy for you in difficult circumstances, etc.

Talk about the danger of trying to determine what we believe to be possible by looking around us instead of looking to the Word.

Encourage students to cast off their old expectations for their walk with God and be willing to choose to believe that God really does have an incredible, life-changing experience with Him in store for them.

### QUESTIONS

1. What were your initial thoughts or what jumped out at you from the book or the video?
2. If you had to pick one of the three categories mentioned in the video to describe yourself—not started your climb yet, climbing, or camped out—which would you choose?
3. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being no experience and 10 being off the charts, how would you describe your level of experience with God? Why did you choose that number?
4. Are you satisfied with your experience of God at this point in your life?
5. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being no hope and 10 being complete confidence, how would you rate your expectation that your experience

with God can dramatically improve from where you are now?

6. When you read the chapter describing some of God's promises, how did it make you feel? Discouraged or excited? Why?
7. If you had to be completely honest, do you believe you can experience God and His promises in the tangible ways Mike outlines in chapter 2? Why or why not? (Clarification: The question is not "Do you believe it's possible," but "Do you believe it's possible for you?")
8. Out of the five promises Mike used as examples in chapter 2, which do you need the most right now and why? (love, satisfaction, freedom, joy, peace)
9. How would it affect your life if you could experience God's promises in a real and tangible way?
10. God has promised that He wants to lead us to fullness of life (John 10:10). Are you willing, with God's help, to make the necessary changes to break camp, follow Jesus, and give Him the chance to reveal Himself to you in new, real, and life-changing ways? Why or why not?

### APPLICATION

Ask the group, "What is your key application point? How are you going to alter the way you live this week as a result of what you've learned?" Remind them that everyone will get a chance to share their experiences from living out their application point at your next meeting.

### PRAYER

Pray over the discussion and pray for strength to follow through with the application points they have chosen. ■

## DISCUSS

Take a few minutes for a follow up discussion on their experiences with putting their application points into practice. Talk through successes, failures, and what they learned.

## VIDEOS

### TEACHING POINTS (OPTIONAL):

- Teach on Revelation 3:15. What is the verse saying? What does lukewarm mean?
- Study the times Jesus called people to follow Him and teach on the kind of commitment He required of His followers.
- Teach on the difference between surrender and perfection. God is not expecting us to be perfect, but we must maintain surrendered hearts when we do fall. Then, we must be quick to repent, get back up, and keep following Him with surrendered lives.

## QUESTIONS

1. What were your initial thoughts or what jumped out at you from the book or the video?
2. How does the kind of commitment to Christ discussed in the book and video differ from what you have heard?
3. How does the kind of commitment to Christ discussed in the book and video differ from your current level of commitment?
4. What is your initial response when you hear about the commitment Jesus asks of us? Why do you think you have the response you have?
5. Why do you think Jesus asks us for complete surrender?
6. What areas of your life do you need to

surrender to Jesus' control?

7. If you had to be honest, are you afraid to surrender those areas to Jesus? Why or why not?
8. What role does grace play in our attempts at surrender? (NOTE: This is to help students understand that there is forgiveness and grace when we fall, but this should not keep us from feeling the need to surrender. However, this is what makes surrender possible—Romans 6.)
9. What role does the Holy Spirit play in our attempts at surrender? (NOTE: It's important to realize that we are not alone and do not fight in our own strength but God has given us the Holy Spirit to empower and transform us—John 16:7, Romans 15:13, Acts 1:8).
10. What did you learn from Mike's story in chapter 4?

## APPLICATION

Ask the group, "What is your key application point? How are you going to alter the way you live this week as a result of what you've learned?" Remind them that everyone will get a chance to share their experiences from living out their application points at your next meeting.

## PRAYER

Pray over the discussion and pray for strength to follow through with the application points they have chosen.

## **DISCUSS**

Take a few minutes for a follow up discussion on their experiences with putting their application points into practice. Talk through successes, failures, and what they learned.

## **VIDEO**

### **TEACHING POINTS (OPTIONAL)**

- Expound on the original deception and other examples of how we can look at a situation with our natural mindset and make improper assumptions about God's character and His intentions for our lives.
- Share testimonies from your life or others of how the Original Deception has played out.
- Identify a few of your favorite promises from the Bible. Help students practice identifying the treasure and the map that these verses provide. I mention a few in chapter 5 that can serve as a guide.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What were your initial thoughts or what jumped out at you from the book or the video?
2. Do you really believe that every instruction in God's Word is only given for your benefit out of God's loving intentions to lead you to fullness of life?
3. Do you think you're at the point where in a moment of temptation you can trust God's intentions for you even if logic seems to be telling you disobedience will be better?
4. Can you think of a time you were convinced that an area of sinful behavior would be worth it and then followed through? How did it turn out?
5. When you consider our limited understanding of the chain reaction of our choices as compared with God's

infinite understanding of the consequences of every decision, does it ever make sense to trust your own understanding rather than His direction? What creative ways can you think of to remind yourself of this truth in the moment of temptation?

6. How specifically have you seen the Original Deception play out in your life?
7. How has your view of the Bible changed after reading chapter 5?
8. Does it change your motivation level to see the Bible as a treasure map bringing great rewards (in this life and the next) to those who are willing to follow its instructions?
9. Have you ever followed an instruction from God's Word and saw it lead to treasure in your life? If so, what happened?
10. Now that you realize the importance of knowing God's Word, how can you alter your life to make time to spend in God's Word?

## **APPLICATION**

Ask the group, "What is your key application point? How are you going to alter the way you live this week as a result of what you learned?" Remind them that everyone will get a chance to share their experiences from living out their application points at your next meeting.

## **PRAYER**

Pray over the discussion and pray for strength to follow through with the application points they have chosen. ■

## DISCUSS

Take a few minutes for a follow up discussion on their experiences with putting their application points into practice. Talk through successes, failures, and what they learned.

## VIDEO

### TEACHING POINTS (OPTIONAL)

- Use scriptures, stories, and/or analogies to help students see God’s character for what it is and that His every instruction is given for their benefit—to lead them to fullness of life.
- Teach on some of the scriptures at the end of chapter 8 and encourage them to memorize and meditate on the verses.
- Help students understand that while following Jesus’ instructions will help us avoid many pitfalls and incur many blessings, it doesn’t mean that we will never face hardships. We live in a fallen world and innocent people are affected by the curse of sin. But even when hardships occur, God is able to work all things together in our lives for our good (Romans 8:28).

## QUESTIONS


1. What were your initial thoughts or what jumped out at you from the book or the video?
2. What did you think about the Character Principle and how can you use this to fight temptation?
3. What did you think about the Extreme Principle and how can you use this to fight temptation?
4. How does it make you feel to know that because God loves you perfectly, it is impossible for Him to love anything more than He loves you?

5. How does your answer to question 4 affect your view of God’s motivation behind His instructions for your life?
6. Before reading chapter 8, how would you describe your view of God? Has that view changed and if so, how?
7. Philippians 2:13 reminds us that God wants us to have both the power and the desire to obey Him. Have you ever experienced a time where God has changed your heart in an area of temptation so that your desire for that thing changed?
8. What are some practical ways you can transform the way you see God so that the Original Deception can be removed and kept from returning? (NOTE: Students may need to help here. Ideas: meditating on His blessings out of thankful heart, meditating on God’s goodness that you’ve experienced, meditating on His character and promises as revealed in His Word, etc.)
9. Were there any scriptures from the end of chapter 8 that really spoke to you? Why?

## APPLICATION

Ask the group, “What is your key application point? How are you going to alter the way you live this week as a result of what you learned?” Remind them that everyone will get a chance to share their experiences from living out their application points at your next meeting.

## PRAYER

Pray over the discussion and pray for strength to follow through with the application points they have chosen. 

## DISCUSS

Take a few minutes for a follow up discussion of their experiences with putting their application points into practice. Talk through successes, failures, and what they learned.

## VIDEO

### TEACHING POINTS (OPTIONAL)

- Share some of your own surrender stories or examples from the lives of others.
- Teach on the importance of deciding to completely surrender to Jesus.
- Teach about hearing God. How do you know when God is speaking to you about an area of surrender or obedience?
- Talk about the practical steps necessary to keep growing now that the study is over—prayer, reading your Bible, fellowship with other believers, church/youth group, continuing to obey the direction of the Holy Spirit, etc.

## QUESTIONS

1. What were your initial thoughts or what jumped out at you from the book or the video?
2. Which story of surrender spoke the most to you? Why?
3. Do you sense any areas of your life where God may be speaking to you about a greater level of surrender?
4. When you think about the area(s) you identified in question three, do you feel more excited to surrender or more afraid of letting go? If you answered, “More afraid”, how can you begin applying the principles we learned in previous chapters to allow God to dispel that fear?
5. Did you pray the prayer in chapter 10? Why or why not?

6. Are you ready to begin living the *All In* life? If not, what is holding you back?
7. How might your life of complete surrender influence your friends and family?
8. Hearing God’s voice in your life is a huge part of your ability to continue following Him. What are the things you use to determine whether or not you are hearing from God? How could you learn to discern God’s voice in your life more clearly?
9. What are some practical ways you can continue to fuel your relationship with God in the coming weeks?

## APPLICATION

Give everyone a chance to share their experiences from living out their application points.

## PRAYER

Pray over the discussion and pray for strength to follow through with the application points they have chosen.

