

A landscape photograph featuring rolling green hills in the foreground, a body of water at the bottom, and a rainbow in a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

SUBMIT YOURSELVES THEREFORE TO GOD

SWEET SURRENDER

STEP 3 OF THE TWELVE STEPS

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God.

JAMES 4

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. (1-3)

JAMES 4

You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (4-6)

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. (7-10)

EXCERPT FROM: ROHR, RICHARD.
"BREATHING UNDER WATER."

We have been graced for a truly sweet surrender, if we can radically accept being radically accepted—for nothing! "Or grace would not be grace at all"! (Romans 11:6). As my father, St. Francis, put it, when the heart is pure, "Love responds to Love alone" and has little to do with duty, obligation, requirement, or heroic anything. It is easy to surrender when you know that nothing but Love and Mercy is on the other side.

THE PROBLEM

PASSIONS



THE SOLUTION

HUMILITY



THE RESULT

GRACE



OUR HOPE

JESUS

