

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM



Date & Sermon Series:

April 25/26, 2015; One Little Yes

Speaker:

Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture Focus: Hebrews 6: 10-15

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed saying “yes” to the promises of God. These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: Pastor Mark spoke about Cornelius in Acts 10 and the memorial offerings he made to God. We’re surrounded by memorials in Washington, D.C.! Which memorial is your favorite and why?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. To what in your life do you need to say “one little yes?”

Specific Questions:

1. Is there a promise God gave you years ago that you’ve forgotten about? Or a promise you’ve stopped standing on? A promise you’ve stopped believing? If so, why? What steps can you take to believe the promise again?
2. Pastor Mark commented today that if it seems as though God has turned back from promises He’s made to you, “God didn’t withdraw His promise, you withdrew your faith.” What is your response to this statement? Do you agree with it? Why or why not? Can you remember a time it felt as though God’s promise was withdrawn but in hindsight you realized it was really your faith? What happened?
3. We were reminded that God both forgives and forgets our sins, but He doesn’t forget His promises. Pastor Mark then stated that, “the next time you confess your sin

for the second time, all you're doing is reminding Him of something He's forgotten." Is this statement freeing, condemning, or both? Why?

4. Pastor Mark said that this week, the idea that "God's no is just as gracious as God's yes," was really impressed on his spirit. Have you experienced a gracious "no" from God? How did you respond at the time? At what point was it clear the "no" was a gracious response?
5. Although we sometimes receive a "gracious no," from time to time, like the inmate who wrote to Pastor Mark, we receive, "what [we] needed and even an extra item." Have you experienced a time when you've received all you needed and "an extra item?" How did you respond at the time?
6. What is your response to Pastor Mark's charge that, "believing anything less than God's best isn't being humble, it's being unfaithful?"
7. Pastor Mark said that, "when the Bible says 'by faith,' we often wish it said 'by logic,' but logic won't get you where you need to go." Describe a time you relied on logic when you should have relied on faith? Is there a time you relied on faith despite what seemed logical? What were the outcomes of either situation?
8. We were reminded that, "gratitude is giving thanks after the blessing; faith is saying 'thank you' before it happens." What do you need to stop begging for and go ahead and say thank you for in faith?

Challenge:

Read & Pray: Pray through 2 Corinthians 1:20, Jeremiah 1:12, Deuteronomy 8:2, and Philippians 4:19 and reflect on the nature of God's promises throughout time. Remember that God wants to renew His promises in our lives!

Act: Pastor Mark shared several testimonies of God's answered promises after years of faithfully believing. With these he stated that, "One way or another, God delivers on His promises." Consider the promises you need to believe today. Write them down, circle them, and say thank you in faith. After that, take time to remember promises that God has already delivered in your life. Write these down as well and give thanks for the blessing of fulfilled promises.