

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM



Date & Sermon Series:

April 4/5, 2015; One Little Yes

Speaker:

Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture Focus: John 11: 17-27; 43-44

Note To Leaders:

Happy Easter! This weekend we celebrated the risen Lord! 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: After a weekend of NCC Eggstravaganzas, discuss as a group how you each celebrated Easter growing up. If you didn't celebrate as a child, did you have perceptions of how your friends celebrated? What did you think?

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. Have you ever said "one little yes" that changed your life? What chain reaction have you seen from that yes?
2. Oswald Chambers said, "Sometimes it seems God is missing the mark because we're too short sighted to see what he's aiming for." Have you ever experienced a time where it seemed God missed the mark? If so, discuss whether or not you've made it to the point where you "see what he's aiming for."
3. Pastor Mark stated that, "doubt is putting your circumstances between you and God. Faith is putting God between you and your circumstances." What do you think about these definitions? Have you experienced a time where your specific circumstances caused you to doubt God's goodness? Have you been able to move

past that doubt? If so, how? If not, why not?

4. Jesus identified himself in several ways, to include “I am the bread of life,” “I am the light of the world,” “I am the good shepherd,” and “I am the resurrection and the life.” How do you identify yourself? How do you think God describes you? If there is a difference between the two, why do you think that is?
5. Pastor Mark described attending a funeral where a cane, walker, wheelchair, and water bottle were all displayed with signs stating, “won’t need this anymore.” What in your life would you like to put a sign on that says, “Won’t need this anymore?” Is there anything you can do now to take steps toward that?
6. We were told this weekend that we can run from God, but we can’t hide. Do you identify with this assertion? Why or why not?
7. Pastor Mark stated, “since Jesus walked out of the tomb, the word impossible needs to be out of our vocabulary.” What in your life needs to be redefined as possible?

Challenge:

Read & Pray: Pray through Romans 10:9, 10 and reflect on the time you first said yes to Christ and the faith moments that stand out since then. If you haven’t said this “yes” yet, why not? Consider taking this step of faith.

Act: Reflect on your answer to what one thing in your life you need to say “yes” to now. Why haven’t you acted yet? What will it take to act? Can you take steps toward “yes?” Consider telling a friend or family member what you need to say “yes” to and asking for their help in taking the plunge.