

"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace." **Ephesians 1:7**

**PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME YOU KNOW WHY GOD HAS SAID NO TO
SOMEONE ELSE'S PRAYERS**

Today's message is meant to encourage each of us in God's Word, and to be a reminder that we are not alone when God tells us no. It is not intended to be a model for counseling those in pain. Instead, with those in pain, practice what Job's friends did well.

"Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him;"
Job 13:15

"Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you."
Psalms 9:10

NOTES...



Part 5
When God Says No

Sierra Community Church - May 13th, 2018

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."
1 John 5:14

What is your typical response to God when He says no?

The Psalms are filled with laments (cries out to God)...

"How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?" **Psalms 13:1**

"Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God, give me relief from my distress." **Psalms 4:1**

"Perhaps he means to strengthen us in patience, good humor, compassion, humility or meekness . . . Perhaps he has new lessons in self-denial and self-distrust to teach us.

Perhaps he wishes to break us of complacency or undetected forms of pride and conceit. Perhaps His purpose is simply to draw us closer to himself . . . Or perhaps God is preparing us for forms of service of which at present we have no inkling." J.I. Packer

Here is a short list of people God said no to in the Scriptures...

Abraham, Moses, Daniel, Job, Jonah, David, Hannah, Elijah, Peter, Paul, and Jesus

Sometimes God says no because His plans are BIGGER than ours.

Example - The Apostle Paul

Romans 1:8-10

Acts 27-28

Isaiah 55:8-9

Sometimes God says no because His plans are BETTER than ours.

Example - King David

2 Samuel 7

1 Chronicles 17

The problem - We don't just want to tell God what we want, we also want to tell Him exactly how to do it.

The promise to David...

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." **Luke 1:32-33**

David's response...

"Then King David went in and sat before the Lord, and he said: "Who am I, Lord God, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? And as if this were not enough in your sight, my God, you have spoken about the future of the house of your servant. You, Lord God, have looked on me as though I were the most exalted of men.

"What more can David say to you for honoring your servant? For you know your servant, Lord. For the sake of your servant and **according to your will**, you have done this great thing and made known all these great promises."

1 Chronicles 17:16-19

Sometimes God says no because He has a different PURPOSE than ours.

Example - Jesus

Matthew 26:39

John 12:27

Hebrews 5:7

"He (Jesus) committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

1 Peter 2:22-24