Lesson 1 – Don't Miss the Assignment: Small Obedience Opens Big Doors

Opening Thought:

We don't usually miss God's instructions because we don't know what to do. We miss them because we're too busy — and sometimes, that busyness becomes a quiet rebellion.

"The one who obeys God's instruction for today will develop a keen awareness of His direction for tomorrow." – Lysa Terkeurst

Examples of Delayed Obedience:

- Pharaoh said "Tomorrow" (Exodus 8:9–10)
- "Let me bury my father first..." (Matthew 8:21–22)

Small Obedience = Big Impact

- A delayed yes can cause a missed assignment.
- Your best yes may be small, quiet, and inconvenient but powerful.
- Obedience today increases your clarity tomorrow.
- "His voice. My yes."

Story Reflection: The Missed and Recovered Assignment

Kami shares a personal story about a delayed response to a grieving friend. After silence, rejection, and confusion, a small act of obedience — a simple text — reopened a closed door. God didn't need a grand gesture. He needed a willing heart. Her yes brought healing.

Discussion:

- Have you ever been prompted by God to reach out to someone, even when it didn't make sense?
- What keeps us from obeying God in these moments?

Want Direction? Start With Obedience

Sometimes we ask God for direction while ignoring the instructions He already gave us. James 1:22 — "Do not merely listen to the word... Do what it says."

Your Schedule Reveals Your Soul

"The decisions we make dictate the schedules we keep. The schedules we keep determine the lives we live. The lives we live determine how we spend our souls." — Lysa TerKeurst

- Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can say is "no."
- Courageous yes. Confident no.
- Don't overprocess what God has made clear.

Reflect: What's one "best yes" or "needed no" God might be leading you toward?

Source: The Best Yes by Lysa Terkeurst

Discerning What's Best

Philippians 1:9–10, "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in <u>knowledge</u> and depth of <u>insight</u>, 10 so that you may be able to <u>discern</u> what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ" (NIV, emphasis added)

- **Knowledge** = Acquiring truth
- **Insight** = Living out truth
- **Discernment** = Spirit-led application of truth in real time

Three Discernment Checkpoints:

- 1. Am I regularly in God's Word?
- 2. Am I applying what I've read?
- 3. Have I sought wise, godly counsel?

Discernment ≠ **Intuition**

- **Intuition** is a perception of truth that's independent of any reasoning (gut feeling).
- **Discernment** is rooted in Scripture and empowered by the Spirit.
- You can't microwave discernment. It's cultivated through:
 - o Prayer
 - o Bible reading
 - Fasting
 - o Worship
 - Community

Where Wisdom Gathers

"We must put our hearts and minds in places where wisdom gathers, not where it scatters." – *Lysa Terkeurst*

- Wisdom gathers at Bible study. Scatters in gossip.
- Gathers in community. Scatters in isolation.
- Gathers in truth. Scatters in distraction.

Read, Isaiah 30:20-21

Even in affliction, God speaks: "This is the way, walk in it." His voice will reroute you when you drift. He'll whisper, "Not that way. This way."

Closing Thought:

What might God be whispering to you this week?

His voice. Your yes. Don't miss the assignment.

Source: *The Best Yes* by Lysa Terkeurst