

Here are some talking points to start using to get your group talking to each other and to start generating meaningful conversations. Remember, you want others to do most of the talking.

**Start Talking.** Find a conversation starter for your group.

**Start Thinking.** Ask a question to get your group thinking. Which part of the message was most impactful to you and why?

**Start Sharing & Talking About the Message.** NOTE: Pastor Ed may not cover all points in all services.

Setting/Open: When God says, “no,” it can be painful. We all love to hear, “yes.” Prayer is not to get God to agree with us, but to get us to get into agreement with God. Does God speak to us? Can we know God’s will for our lives? Yes & Yes

1. **How to approach God in Prayer:** If the request is wrong, God says? A. **No**. If the timing is wrong, God says? A. **Slow**. If I am wrong, God says? A. **Grow**. If everything lines up with God’s will, God says? A. **Go**
2. God tells us His will through the use of what? **A**. Open and closed doors.
3. What is the key to allowing God to be in control of our lives during hard times? **A**. Remain open to the Holy Spirit. **Psalm 31:3** God’s way should prevail, not ours. **Proverbs 16:9; 16:33; 19:21**  
**Isaiah 55:6-10** provides foundational truths - God’s plans and thoughts are different than ours.  
**Key:** God uses both closed and open doors to guide us.
4. We have a tendency to look at things in what way? **A**. Seeing the small picture. We see the physical; God sees the what? **B**. The eternal and the spiritual. **2Cor 4:17-18**
5. **Chuck Smith:**  
How do we discover how God wants to work in our lives? **A**. Venture out in faith.  
What must we guard against? **A**. Presumption and relying on human effort.  
What do we do when we discover God is not in a venture that we’ve undertaken? **A**. Retreat/step-back.
6. **Will of God:**  
God’s will is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, NOT \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. **A**. discovered and revealed; not planned and scheduled. **Romans 1:17** The will of God is not a task list, but it is abiding in Christ with an open heart and mind, allowing God to guide us through the Holy Spirit.  
Also, God’s will is not an \_\_\_\_\_, but an \_\_\_\_\_? **A**. Itinerary/attitude.  
Don’t respond to God in the flesh. When God says “no,” He may be saying, “grow-up.” Closed doors bring us closer to God.
7. The will of God is always what, even if it is hard? **A**. Good. **Luke 12:22-32** **A.S.K.** “Life is more...”

**Start Praying & Start Doing.** Check Prayer Requests, & pray.

Talk to your group about (1) creating profiles on the Calvary App so your group can create a group chat on the app. Let Pastor Josh know so he can set your group up for you. (2) Encourage your group to read ahead. (3) Please remember to fill out the LIFEgroup meeting assessment form after your meeting. Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/LIFEgroup-Assessment>

LIFEgroups

talk it over | week 1

discussion | study

When God Says No

Isaih 49:10

Pastor Ed Taylor