

WHEN GOD SAYS ‘NO’

Pray: Conclusion

July 24, 2022

Pastor Brian

“Call to me and I will answer you...” (Jeremiah 33:3a, NIV)

3 OF THE MANY REASONS GOD SAYS ‘NO’

CAUTION: Use these to comfort yourself, but NEVER use them with someone in pain, because you don’t know why God said no to them.

1. GOD SAYS ‘NO’ WHEN HE HAS A BIGGER PERSPECTIVE.

“He knows about everyone, everywhere. Everything about us is bare and wide open to the all-seeing eyes of our living God; nothing can be hidden from him...” (Hebrews 4:13, The Living Bible)

“For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don’t look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.” (2 Corinthians 4:17–18, NLT)

2. GOD SAYS ‘NO’ WHEN HE HAS A BETTER PLAN.

“But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed...” (Acts 2:23, NLT)

“This plan of mine is not what you would work out, neither are my thoughts the same as yours! ...my ways [are] higher than yours, and my thoughts than yours.” (Isaiah 55:8–9, The Living Bible)

“God’s ways are as mysterious as the pathway of the wind...” (Ecclesiastes 11:5, The Living Bible)

“These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better...” (Hebrews 11:39–40, NIV)

3. GOD SAYS ‘NO’ WHEN HE HAS A GREATER PURPOSE.

“Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the LORD’s purpose that prevails.” (Proverbs 19:21, NIV)

“I cry out to God Most High, to God who will fulfill his purpose for me.” (Psalm 57:2, NLT)

“There are some things the LORD our God has kept secret, but there are some things he has let us know...” (Deuteronomy 29:29, NCV)

WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN GOD SAYS ‘NO’?

1. TRUST GOD’S HEART.

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;” (Proverbs 3:5, NIV)

“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” (Romans 8:28, NLT)

2. ACCEPT GOD’S WILL.

“your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:10, NIV)

“For I have come here from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to have my own way.” (John 6:38, The Living Bible)

“Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”” (Mark 14:35–36, NIV)

3. EXPECT GOD’S GRACE.

“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Corinthians 12:8–10, NIV)

“Those who know you, LORD, will trust you; you do not abandon anyone who comes to you.” (Psalm 9:10, GNB)

ACTION STEPS

2nd Base

7-day Bible Reading Plan

<https://my.bible.com/reading-plans/25532-when-god-says-no>