

SHOULD HAPPENS

Moving from a **Should** Life to a **Good** Life

September 7 - 29

Should Happens - Week 3 September 21-22, 2019 | Todd Clark

This weekend, Pastor Todd unpacks what it means to live with our "Next Gen" in mind!

CELEBRATE

At the beginning of your small group time, it's good to share about your week and share with each other how you're doing. So, spend some time, right now, connecting before jumping into the discussion questions. You can use the *Connect* section as a guide. If you're doing this Study Guide on your own, take a moment to focus your mind on God and what He might want you to hear today.

CONNECT

1. Talk about a time when someone "dared" you to do something crazy (could have been when you were a kid, or maybe yesterday?). Talk about how that turned out in the end.
2. Think about a moment in life when you had to say "no" to someone. Specifically, someone you care about and respect. How did you get to the point of making that decision?

Before watching the [sermon](#), or moving on in this study, take a minute to remember that God is always with you. Pray as a group for God to bless your conversation and open your eyes and hearts to what He wants you to hear.

REFLECT

Before moving forward in your study, take a moment and review the key points from this weekend's message.

1. When I'm obsessed with your 'yes,' my life becomes a mess.
2. When I'm obsessed with God's 'yes,' my life becomes blessed.
3. Jesus said "no" to his friends, to peer pressure and promotion, and also to helping every single person.
4. If you never say no to people and try to care for everything, you will soon realize you do not have the capacity to care for anything.
5. You must steward your compassion.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE: Mark 1:32-37, 10:35-40; John 6:14-15

RESPOND

1. Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this weekend's message that struck you. What made it resonate with you?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being "Completely Healthy" and 1 being "Out of Gas," rate yourself on your level of energy for helping others. Talk about why you gave yourself that rating - what situations and factors are going on in your life right now that made you choose that number?
3. Read Mark 5:1-20. Read through a couple of times, making a note of any words or phrases that stand out to you. It is important to know that the area where Jesus is teaching is an area populated with non-Jewish (Gentile) people, and that pigs are considered unclean by the Jewish faith. In other words, this is an "away game" for Jesus. People possessed by spirits are also considered to be unclean, as well as dead bodies and tombs, which makes it awkward for a Jewish man like Jesus to visit this area. Important to note also is that many scholars believe this man to be struggling with what we know today as mental illness.
4. The story is a bit strange, right? Talk about your first impressions after reading it. Talk specifically about what you notice Jesus doing and how people responded.
5. The word "Legion" (5:9) is actually a Roman military word, used for a group of Roman soldiers. Talk about the impact in a Roman-ruled territory of comparing a bunch of demons to a bunch of Roman soldiers.
6. When Jesus does amazing things (see 5:15-17), sometimes people don't know how to respond. Talk about a time when God did something amazing in your life - something beyond your expectations or the expectations of others. How did that moment change the way you see God?
7. Pastor Todd & the Parkview campus pastors talked about how sometimes Jesus said "no" to his friends. Focus on 5:19-20 in this passage. Talk about your first impressions about Jesus' "no" to the healed man. How do we typically expect Jesus to respond to

someone's request to follow Jesus?

8. Talk about the impact or result of the healed man NOT joining Jesus as a follower (5:20). Look at the expectations others are putting on you right now. How many of those expectations are fair? How many are unfair? Talk about what you believe a "no" to those unfair expectations might do. How does the result of Jesus' "no" help you understand the impact of your own "necessary no's"?

Closing Prayer:

God, thank you for the fact that you teach and guide us on how and when to say "no" to unfair and unreasonable expectations. It doesn't matter how we come to those expectations, you are still so good to give us wisdom in saying "yes" or "no." Help us to be consumed with the things you want us to say "yes" to, and help us to courageously embrace the "no's" that we need to say this week. We know we'll struggle to do this, but help us keep going. We love you and thank you for what you're already doing to help us. Thank you.

Amen.