

Say Yes

December 10, 2017

I. Introduction: Our Light

Matthew 5:14-16 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

A. How To Shine Bright This Christmas

B. Say Yes

II. Three “Say Yes” Principles

Acts 9:10 In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord,” he answered.

1. Say Yes First

Acts 9:10 (ESV) Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.”

A. Yes means “Here I Am.”

B. Be Ready For Yes.

Ephesians 5:8-10 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) 10 and find out what pleases the Lord.

C. Choose Yes Before No.

2. Say Yes To God

Acts 9:11-12 The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”

A. God May Use You To Be The Answer To Someone's Prayers.

Acts 9:13-14 "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

Acts 9:15-16 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

B. God Sees Things Differently Than You Do.

- The Word of God overrides the word on the street.
- Yesterday does not have to define tomorrow.

C. God Simply Asks You To Obey.

- In a world with so many voices, choose to speak for God.

Philippians 2:14-16 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.

3. Say Yes To Others

Acts 9:17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

A. Someone Needs You To Be Their Somebody.

- Stand on the promises of God for someone with someone.

B. Someone Needs You To Believe In Them.

Acts 9:23-25 After many days had gone by, there was a conspiracy among the Jews to kill him, but Saul learned of their plan. Day and night they kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill him. But his followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall.

- Every basket-case needs off-the-wall friends.

Acts 9:18-19 Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

C. Someone Needs You To Shine.

Matthew 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- The light of the world will help others to see.
- Increase the wattage!