



Thank God I Said “Yes” | Shawn Johnson | 7.19.20
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever been given?

SHARE

Welcome to Week One of Follow Me. In this series, we are looking at the invitation to be a disciple (a student) of Jesus. As Christians, we are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. In fact, the word disciple is used 268 times in the New Testament. But before we jump into what that looks like, take some time to check in with your Group by having everyone answer these questions:

Rate your week on a scale of 1 to 10. Why did you pick that number?

What has been the most challenging part of this pandemic for you?

What is the best thing that happened to you this week?

What do you feel like God is currently teaching you?

GROW

Read Luke 5:1-11

What is your initial reaction to this story? What stood out to you the most?

The passage you just read tells the story of Jesus inviting Peter to follow him. Luke's account gives us some fantastic details that will encourage us as we all figure out what it means to follow Jesus. As you probably noticed, Jesus gives Peter a rather strange invitation to sail back out into the deep waters and put down his net.

It's easy to read right past this line and not think twice, but it's actually a very absurd request. First, Peter is just coming in from an unsuccessful night of fishing, so he is probably exhausted and ready for a nap. Next, he didn't catch any fish all night long. Peter preferred to work at night because when the sun came out, the water warmed up, and the fish swam down deeper into the sea, making it much harder to catch any. In other words, if Peter didn't have any success during the night, he didn't stand a chance during the day. And to make matters worse, Jesus is a carpenter, and he's telling a professional fisherman how to fish.

It makes total sense that Peter is skeptical. However, he decides to listen to Jesus, and that decision changed the course of his life!

This is an excellent example of what God's call often looks like in our life. They usually don't make any sense at first. However, what we know from Scripture is when we have enough faith to jump in and move forward, God will do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20).

Have you ever been skeptical of something you feel God is asking you to do? If so, tell the Group about it.

Have you ever said "yes" to something you felt like God was calling you to do? What was the result?

M O V E

Read Jeremiah 17:7-8

What word stuck out to you the most in this passage?

One of the main reasons we don't say "yes" to God is that we feel unworthy. That was undoubtedly Peter's story. It almost caused him to walk away from Jesus altogether. The key to saying yes to God is to remember who God says we are. The passage you just read in

Jeremiah is a great reminder of what happens when we trust God. Reread those two verses with your Group and notice the fruit of trusting God. The Bible says we will be:

1. Blessed
2. Provided For
3. Fearless
4. At Peace
5. Purposeful
6. Productive

That's quite a promise! No matter how you currently feel, the truth is you are worthy of following Jesus. Don't listen to any of the lies that are telling you otherwise.

Which item on that list is the most difficult for you to believe is true about yourself? Why do you think that is?

Which item on that list is the easiest for you to believe is true about yourself? Why do you think that is?

God made you on purpose and for a purpose, and when we say "yes" to His invitation, we begin to discover what that purpose is. As Shawn reminded us this week, "God's miraculous provision and abundant life are found on the other side of saying yes!" Let's practice that by completing this week's Take-Home Assignment.

Take-Home Assignment: Say Yes!

What is one thing you feel like God is calling you to say yes to this week? Take two minutes and set up a game plan for saying yes. For accountability, tell your Group what you came up with.

P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate calls to share more freely.

T O G O

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9