

WHEN GOD SAYS “NO”
#SermonNo
40 Days of Prayer - Part 6
Dr. Mark Jackson, November 11, 2018

Jeremiah 33:3a Call to Me and I will answer you... (NIV)

Job 42:7 After the LORD had finished speaking to Job, he said to Eliphaz, "I am angry with you and your two friends, because you did not speak the truth about me, the way my servant Job did." (TEV)

THREE REASONS GOD SAYS “NO”

1. BECAUSE HE HAS A BIGGER PERSPECTIVE

Hebrews 4:13 God 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... (LB)

Proverbs 2:8 God guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. (NLT)

2. BECAUSE HE HAS A BETTER PLAN

Isaiah 55:8-9 This plan of mine is not what you would work out, neither are my thoughts the same as yours! ⁹ For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than yours, and my thoughts than yours. (LB)

Ecclesiastes 11:5 Just as you'll never understand how the mystery of life forms in a pregnant woman, so you'll never understand the mystery at work in all that God does. (MSG)

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

3. BECAUSE HE HAS A GREATER PURPOSE

Psalms 57:2 I cry out to God Most High, who fulfills his purpose for me. (NIV)

1 Peter 1:7 The purpose of these troubles is to test your faith as fire tests how genuine gold is. Your faith is more precious than gold... (GW)

WHAT TO DO WHEN GOD SAYS “NO”?

1. TRUST GOD'S GOODNESS AND LOVE

Psalm 25:10a All the ways of the Lord are loving... (NIV)

2. PRAY LIKE JESUS PRAYED

Mark 14:35-36 Jesus went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by. ³⁶ "Abba, Father," he cried out, "everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine." (NLT)

- Affirm GOD'S POWER
- Ask WITH PASSION
- Accept GOD'S PLAN

3. RELY ON GOD'S GRACE

2 Corinthians 12:7b-10 I was given a physical ailment, which acts like Satan's messenger... ⁸ Three times I prayed to the Lord about this and asked him to take it away. ⁹ But his answer was: "My grace is all you need, for my power is greatest when you are weak." So, I am most happy, then, to be proud of my weaknesses, in order to feel the protection of God's power over me... ¹⁰ ...For when I am weak, then I am strong!" (TEV)

John 1:17 The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth come through Jesus Christ. (NCV)