Say Yes! Sermon Notes

“Take this most seriously: A yes on earth is yes in heaven; a no on earth is no in heaven.” Matthew 18:18a (Message)

This passage reminds us all that there are eternal consequences to our decisions to say yes to God.

* Women throughout history who were willing to say yes to a challenge and the difference it made (Joan of Arc, Marie Curie, Amelia Earhart, Harriet Tubman, Catherine Booth, Rosa Parks, Mother Teresa, etc.)
* Think about it: Women in your own life who said yes to God and the difference it made in your life

This excerpt, Women in the Word, proves there is no excuse for not being available to God.

Women in the Word

The next time you are tempted to tell the Lord or anyone else why it is that you can’t do what God is telling you to do, remember…

Martha was a worrier and her sister Mary got a bad rap for doing the right thing. Jael had to save a nation with only a tent peg; Deborah held court under a Palm tree, Mary Magdalene had been demon possessed… Mary had to tell her fiancé she was pregnant with God’s son, The woman with the alabaster box was talked about, Bathsheba had a marriage with a shady beginning, Abigail’s husband was foolish, Anna was old. Sarah was old and pregnant. The woman with the issue of blood was sick, Tabitha was dead. Naomi was a widow; Ruth was a foreigner in a new land. Rahab was a prostitute, the woman at the well was divorced….a lot. Noah’s wife had to put up with close quarters… and lots of poop. Zelophehad’s daughters had to buck the system, Leah was unloved, and Queen Esther had to risk her neck. Naaman’s wife’s servant girl was a prisoner of war and Rachel had to be patient waiting for Mr. Right. Priscilla risked her life for Paul; traveled with her husband, held church in her house and made tents on the side. Zipporah’s husband was a busy prophet, leader and up and coming author and was constantly dealing with complainers.
Say Yes! Sermon Notes (continued)

Before we talk about what it is to say yes to God, let’s see what saying yes isn’t.

1. It isn’t always easy
2. It isn’t always popular
   * It makes people feel indicted sometimes
   * Remember: We perform for an audience of one.
   * If we seek Him first then He’ll take care of the rest. Proverbs 3:5
3. It isn’t always comfortable - God will take us outside our comfort zone.
   * It isn’t always what you expect
   * We tend to define ourselves by what we’ve done. God often pushes us into different realms.

NOTE: It’s a good habit to practice saying yes in the small things, so you don’t miss out on the big things God has for you.

Obedience is better than sacrifice. I Samuel 15:22
Our rules and agendas aside
Now, let’s talk about what saying yes is

1. It is an act of faith
   * We walk by faith, not by sight. Hebrews 11:1

2. It is a breath of fresh air
   * For you and those around you

3. It is a blow to the enemy

4. It is a victory for you personally, and for the Kingdom of God

Remember: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

God does the work through us. We are never alone.

Isaiah 41:10

“Fear not for I am with you. Be not dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you yes I will help you. I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness.”

You can’t outgive God. When we say yes to his task, He has and always will say yes to helping us do it!