Let us Pray When God Says No - Part II July 2, 2023



"Call to me and I will answer you"

Jeremiah 33:3 NIV

## Three of the *many* reasons God might say "No"

- God says "no" when He has a <u>BIGGER PERSPECTIVE</u>.
  God says "no" when He has a <u>BETTER PLAN</u>.
  God says "no" when He has a <u>BOLDER PURPOSE</u>.

# What do we do with a "No"?

1. Remember God's

Psalm 25:10 <sup>NIV</sup> – "All the ways of the LORD are loving..."

Romans 8:28 NCV - "We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love Him."

#### Hows

Cradle yourself in God's i.

Psalm 34:18 GNT - "The LORD is near to those who are discouraged; He saves those who have lost all hope."

ii. Find strenath in God's

Isaiah 41:10  $^{MSG}$  – "Don't panic. I'm with you. There's no need to fear for I'm your God. I'll give you strength. I'll help you. I'll hold you steady, keep a firm arip on you."

iii. Embrace God's Habakkuk 2:3 CEV – "At the time I have decided, my words will come true. You can trust what I say about the future. It may take a long time, but keep on waiting, for it will happen!"

#### 2. Remember Jesus'

Mark 14:35-36 <sup>NII</sup> – "He 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. "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.""

When we are hurting:

- Affirm

- Ask

- Accept

### 3. Remember God's

2 Corinthians 12:8-10 NLT – "Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

# God's grace gives me

Isgiah 40:29 NV - "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."

Philippians 4:13 NV "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 NV - "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles."

Psalm 34:18 NLT – "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed."

Romans 15:13 NV - "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Jeremiah 29:11 NV - "For I know the plans I have for you." declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Psalm 32:8 NV - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

Isaiah 58:11 GNT – "I will always guide you and satisfy you with good things. I will keep you strong and well. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water, like a spring of water that never goes dry."

Romans 12:2 NLT – "Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

2 Corinthians 3:18 GNT – "All of us reflect the glory of the Lord with uncovered faces; and that same glory coming from the Lord transforms us into his likeness in an ever greater degree of glory."

Psalm 23:1 TLB – "Because the Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need!" Psalm 34:10 <sup>NIV</sup> – "Lions may arow weak and hunary, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.'

#### NOTES:

# Wait by Russell Kelfer

Desperately, helplessly, longingly, I cried; Quietly, patiently, lovingly, God replied. I pled and I wept for a clue to my fate . . . And the Master so gently said, "Wait."

"Wait? you say wait?" my indignant reply. "Lord, I need answers, I need to know why! Is your hand shortened? Or have you not heard? By faith I have asked, and I'm claiming your Word.

"My future and all to which I relate Hangs in the balance, and you tell me to wait? I'm needing a 'yes', a go-ahead sign, Or even a 'no' to which I can resign.

"You promised, dear Lord, that if we believe, We need but to ask, and we shall receive. And Lord I've been asking, and this is my cry: I'm weary of asking! I need a reply."

Then quietly, softly, I learned of my fate, As my Master replied again, "Wait." So I slumped in my chair, defeated and taut, And grumbled to God, "So, I'm waiting for what?"

He seemed then to kneel, and His eyes met with mine . . . and He tenderly said, "I could give you a sign. I could shake the heavens and darken the sun. I could raise the dead and cause mountains to run. "I could give all you seek and pleased you would be. You'd have what you want, but you wouldn't know Me. You'd not know the depth of my love for each saint. You'd not know the power that I give to the faint.

"You'd not learn to see through clouds of despair; You'd not learn to trust just by knowing I'm there. You'd not know the joy of resting in Me When darkness and silence are all you can see.

"You'd never experience the fullness of love When the peace of My spirit descends like a dove. You would know that I give, and I save, for a start, But you'd not know the depth of the beat of My heart.

"The glow of my comfort late into the night, The faith that I give when you walk without sight. The depth that's beyond getting just what you ask From an infinite God who makes what you have last.

"You'd never know, should your pain quickly flee, What it means that My grace is sufficient for thee. Yes, your dearest dreams overnight would come true, But, oh, the loss, if you missed what I'm doing in you.

"So, be silent, my child, and in time you will see That the greatest of gifts is to truly know me. And though oft My answers seem terribly late, My most precious answer of all is still . . . Wait."