

Message Series: **Simple Prayers that Strengthen the Soul**

Message Title: **'Lord, Yes'**

Scripture Sources: **Matthew 28:16-20, Matthew 3:13-17**

Date: July 16, 2017

Teacher: John Garner

Who's In Charge?

'You aren't the boss of me!' ...spoken to a parent by a young boy. A fiery and feisty young boy. For many young children a defiant 'no' is core to their limited vocabulary. Yet, that readiness to say 'no' tags along with us into our adult years. Sometimes 'no' is an essential choice...no to certain choices, environments, attitudes etc that are unhealthy. Yet, there are times when 'yes' is the appropriate response to any number of opportunities and responsibilities. Especially in a relationship with God.

'Lord, Yes': Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus gathers his core ministry team together for a final briefing and commissioning.

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Connect and converse with people, all sorts of people, encouraging them to think through who Jesus is and why choosing to believe in him and follow him...his words and works...is a wise choice, for time and eternity. Invite people to say a thoughtful 'yes' to Jesus, to his love, grace, and truth that is meant to intersect with their everyday lives.

Jesus longs to infuse people like you and me with hope, the reassurance of forgiveness of sins, a robust and practical purpose for living, and the internal power and wisdom to live skilfully and gracefully. Yet, 'yes' needs to be lived out...'Lord, yes.'

The 'Yes' of Baptism

Engaging thoughtfully and willingly in believers' baptism is a clear indication of living out this simple prayer, 'Lord, Yes'. Baptism paints a picture of identification with Jesus as Saviour from sin and leader in the journey of life.

Jesus modeled this heart for God at his baptism. Matthew 3:13-17. Jesus was sinless yet in being baptised he clearly and publicly said 'yes' to the Father's will of becoming the sacrifice for sin we all need. And the Father is deeply moved by the Son's obedience. "This is my Son..."

God's Yes to Us

When we are baptised in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit a passionate and unshakeable promise of God is being stated. God is declaring that we are in an indestructible relationship with him based on faith in Jesus. Not baptism. Baptism is an outward activity that marks an inward 'yes' to the grace, love, and leadership of God in our lives. God is for us.

You and Your 'Yes'

It may be to say 'yes' to seriously exploring who Jesus is who he claimed to be and what he offers to people like you and me. 'Lord, Yes.' What could that look like for you today? Observe these baptisms carefully, consider the 'yes' being given to God, is there a 'yes' taking shape in you?

Message Series: **'Simple Prayers...to strengthen the soul'**

Message Title: **'Lord, yes!'**

Scripture: **2 Corinthians 1:18-20**

Teacher: Stephen Mason

Date: Sunday, July 16, 2017

- *"But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not "Yes" and "No." For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by me and Silas and Timothy, was not "Yes" and "No," but in him it has always been "Yes." For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God."* 2 Corinthians 1:18-20
- Who is in the 'Driver's Seat'?
- "I really want you in the car Jesus, but I'm not sure I want you driving."
- "Jesus does not come to rearrange the outside of my life the way I want it to be. He comes to rearrange the inside of my life the way God wants it to be."
- "You receive power through surrender that you cannot obtain any other way."
"You receive freedom through submission that you will otherwise never know."
- A Divided Heart
- In what area of your life is God inviting you to give your "Yes" to him?
- Our "Yes" is grounded in the character of God.
- Genesis 12:2-2; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 32:8; Matthew 11:28-29; Romans 8:1-2; Colossians 3:3-4; 1 John 1:9; Revelation 22:20-21
Which of God's promises is the most relevant to you at this time...talk to God about this.
- "All of God's promises are "yes" in Christ."
- *"And so through him [Christ] the 'Amen' is spoken..."*