The Repercussions of Your "Yes!"

"Gabriel said, 'Don't be frightened, Mary, for God has decided to wonderfully bless you! Very soon now, you will become pregnant and have a baby boy, and you are to name him 'Jesus'... Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant, and I am willing to do whatever he wants. May everything you said come true." And then the angel disappeared." Luke 1:30, 31, 38 (TLB)

I. Introduction

II. The Importance of Saying "Yes" To Your Destiny (God's Will)

"The greatest leaders are reluctant ones who lead because they realize that no one else seems willing to step up." –Orrin Woodward

"The difference between successful people and really successful people is that really successful people say no to almost everything." - Warren Buffett

Famous cases in point...

- President Dwight Eisenhower
- President George Washington

III. Examples of Those Whose "Yes" Enabled Them to Become World-Changers

His challenge	
The result	
"Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he sthat you know nothing about." Then his disciples said to each other, him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent John 4:31-34	'Could someone have brought
"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, when endured the cross, scorning its shame" Hebrews 12:2	no for the joy set before Him
 His challenge	
The result	

"So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt...Moses said to the LORD, "O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue." The LORD said to him, "Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say." But Moses said, "O Lord, please send someone else to do it." Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and his heart will be glad when he sees you." Exodus 3:10-11 & Exodus 4:10-14

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•	His challenge
•	The result_

"After the death of Moses, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying: "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them--the children of Israel...Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan. ..So the LORD gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their forefathers, and they took possession of it and settled there. The LORD gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their forefathers. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the LORD handed all their enemies over to them. Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every single promise was fulfilled." Joshua 1:1-2; 3:17; 21:43-45

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•	Their challenge
•	The result

"Jesus...saw two brothers, Peter, and Andrew, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him...He saw two other brothers, James and John, in the boat with their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him...Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." Then another of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead." Matt. 4:18-22 & 8:19-22

"And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of <u>the kingdoms under the whole heaven</u> <u>shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High;</u> His kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him." Daniel 7:27 (ESV)

ANSWER KEY:

III. Biblical Examples of Those Who Said "Yes" and Became World-Changers

- 1. Jesus---Love---The redemption of mankind
- 2. Moses---Trust in the face of self-doubt---The deliverance of God's people
- 3. Joshua---Courage---God's people brought into their rightful inheritance
- 4. The disciples---Obedience despite massive uncertainties and insecurity