

Message Notes | Prayer

Part 4: When God Says No

2 Samuel 12:15-23

- what should you do when God says no?
- complicated and messy - **2 Samuel 12:13-16**

**#1 You are _____ to pray _____
because God has taken away your sin.**

- the plea and the answer - **vs. 16-18**

#2 Sometimes God's _____ comes without a _____.

- David did three things - **vs. 18-23**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#3 Disappointment doesn't have to _____.

- a prayer answered "no" - **Luke 22:41-42**

**#4 Jesus _____ the greatest _____
to _____ the greatest _____.**

- two things to remember when God says "no"
- 1.
- 2.

Group Questions | Prayer

Part 4: When God Says No

2 Samuel 12:15-23

1. What has been a key takeaway for you from this series?
2. How can a sense of guilt before God affect the way a person prays or the frequency with which they pray? Do you find this to be a factor in your prayer life?
3. Read **2 Samuel 12:15-17**. How would you describe the manner in which David prayed? Have you ever prayed for something like he did?
4. David's prayer was met with a "no" despite his great sincerity and persistence. Does this challenge or affirm your view of prayer? Share a time when you prayed persistently and passionately but still received a "no."
5. Sometimes God doesn't allow us to see the reason why certain prayers are answered with "no." Why do you think God chooses not to reveal the reasoning?
6. Read **2 Samuel 12:20**. David got up, washed himself, and worshiped God. That means he refused to see God's "no" as defeat, he carried on with life, and he chose a posture of worship. Which of those three things is hardest for you when you're disappointed?
7. What practical steps help you stay close to God in seasons where he feels silent or unresponsive?
8. How does the gospel reshape the way you process disappointment over God's "no's"?

Message Notes | Prayer

Part 4: When God Says No

2 Samuel 12:15-23

- what should you do when God says “no”?
- complicated and messy - **2 Samuel 12:13-16**

#1 You are worthy to pray right now because God has taken away your sin.

- the plea and the answer - **vs. 16-18**

#2 Sometimes God’s “no” comes without a “why.”

- David did three things - **vs. 18-23**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

#3 Disappointment doesn’t have to create distance.

- a key prayer answered “no” - **Luke 22:41-42**

#4 Jesus accepted the greatest “no” to give you the greatest “yes.”

- two things to remember when God says “no”
 - 1.
 - 2.

Bible Reading for Today

2 Samuel 12:15-23

After Nathan had gone home, the Lord struck the child that Uriah’s wife had borne to David, and he became ill. ¹⁶ David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and spent the nights lying in sackcloth on the ground. ¹⁷ The elders of his household stood beside him to get him up from the ground, but he refused, and he would not eat any food with them.

¹⁸ On the seventh day the child died. David’s attendants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, “While the child was still living, he wouldn’t listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate.”

¹⁹ David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. “Is the child dead?” he asked. “Yes,” they replied, “he is dead.”

²⁰ Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

²¹ His attendants asked him, “Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!”

²² He answered, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, ‘Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let the child live.’ ²³ But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.”