

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

What to do when God says “No”

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

> Please help us keep track of our DO SOMETHING hours and fill out your Small Group Report at <http://www.therocksandiego.org/smallgroups/reports/>

MEMORY VERSE

“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand oh king. But even if he does not , we want you to know, Oh king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up” Daniel 3:17, 18

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Through the “Bubbles” study we have learned various aspects of prayer. One of the most profound sermons in the series was how to pray and to get your prayers answered. God answers all prayers. One of the answers God gives for our prayers is “No”. There are times we ask God for a miracle on things we feel He should give us and He responds with a ‘No’. Watching how Nick, a man born without legs or hands, being used by God, and seeing him reach people for the Kingdom of God, registers in every mind that God is able to do anything He wants with anyone He wants as long as that individual is open and willing to be used by Him. Nick, as well as all of us, are miracles of God. Through him we achieve more than we can ordinarily measure up to.

Getting Started

1. Nick, without limbs and needing equipment to move around, said “I am not disabled, I live in a world that is”.
 - a. How does Nick’s life prove that it is the world, not him, that is ‘disabled’?
 - b. What are some of the things people with arms and legs cannot do that Nick can and has done?

2. Nick stated that he is a miracle of God that anybody who sees him will not forget in a long time.
 - a. What other miracle of God have you seen that you will definitely keep in memory for a long time?

Digging Deeper:

Read Daniel 3:1-30

1. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were Jews in Babylonian captivity. The Babylonian king set up a golden image and had commanded that everyone in his kingdom was to bow down and worship it when they heard the signal that was to be played. The three Jews refused to bow.
 - a. Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refuse to bow (See Exodus 20:4,5)
 - b. Do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were the only Jews in the congregation to whom the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20 applied?
2. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were told that they would be thrown into the furnace if they refused to bow. They were promised a second chance to do it.
 - a. Review Daniel 3:14 and 15. Why did the king repeat the instructions to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
3. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did not wait to try on the second chance but said God was able to deliver them.
 - a. Review verse 17 and 18. Does that verse show that they Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were prepared for whatever answer God gave?
 - b. Nick said that he has a pair of shoes in his closet. How does that fact show preparedness for God's answer?
4. Nick said that whatever you build on earth has no eternal value. It will eventually crumble.
 - a. How does the defiance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego relate to that biblical principle?
 - b. What if God did not rescue them?
5. Having seen the defiance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego the king commanded that they crank up the heat 7 times. He commanded the strongest men to bind them and throw them into the furnace.

- a. Do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were prepared for this?
 - b. What would it have meant to the kingdom of God had they changed their minds at this point?
6. Review verse 25. The king observed that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were loose and walking around in the fire unharmed. He also noticed a fourth person in the fire.
 - a. Who do you think was the fourth person?
 - b. How is Isaiah 43 verse 2 directly applied here?
7. In the end the defiance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego glorified God and the king made a declaration that there is “no other God that can deliver in this sort”.
 - a. Nick challenged us to use what we currently have to glorify God. How did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego use what they had to glorify God?

Bringing it Home

It was easy to notice how God has used a man without limbs for his own glory.

1. What does that teach us about taking care of the bodies / limbs God has allowed us to have?
2. If someone without limbs can glorify God in Nick’s fashion what does that teach us to do when God says “No”
3. How will we make the most of the situations where God says “No”?