

Say Yes

By His Spirit Series – Ps Jonathan Mok

Icebreaker: ‘yes, but’ & ‘yes, and’

Round 1 — “Yes, but...”

Ask the people in the room to pair up. The task for each pair is to attempt to make a hypothetical dinner plan together. Each person takes a turn at saying one sentence, and then it is the next person’s turn. The first sentence must be: “would you like to go for dinner this evening?” Every subsequent sentence must start with “yes, but...” Set a timer for two minutes, confirm the rules are understood, and go. After the two minutes are up, ask an open question to the group: “how did that feel?” and wait for answers. Ask for a show of hands to see who managed to make plans.

Round 2 — “Yes, and...”

Same rules as the first round, except for one change: after the first sentence, every subsequent sentence starts with “yes, and...” After the two minutes are up, ask an open question to the room: “how did it feel this time?” and wait for answers. Ask for a show of hands to see who managed to make plans this time. There should be more success this round.

The point of the exercise is to reinforce that every time someone communicates with you, it is an offer, and presents you with a choice. We can accept the offer and try to build on it (yes, and...) or we can reject the offer, and close the possibilities of building on the idea (yes, but...). This principle is also applicable to our relationship with God.

Aim of discussion:

- To learn to receive things in the Spirit by hearing the word of God.
- To have an attitude of surrender and humility to be able to enter God’s house.

Receive things in the Spirit that surpass our minds.

- Your spirit man has five senses, you are designed to hear from God, to encounter God, to have a relationship with God.
 - o Smell
 - o Taste
 - o Touch
 - o See
 - o Hear
- Your spirit man can receive things when your mind can not understand them. Comprehension is not the evidence we hear from God. God is moving on our Spirit.
- God’s languages are diverse. God can speak in different ways. When we reach a point of decision, God has already worked in our life/hearts, but sometimes we do not realize it.
- When God shows up, He speaks through His presence. It is possible to receive things in the Spirit without understanding yet.

- Speaking in tongues - the speaker does not understand when they speak in tongues. Understanding deals with our soul, but when we speak in tongues, our spirit receives things that surpass our understanding/mind, thus faith can be built up.

Faith comes by hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10 - faith comes by hearing, hearing by the word of God.

- It is about the word "hearing", for example: God spoke to Abraham and asked him to sacrifice his son. Abraham heard the voice of God. But as his knife came down, God said "stop", then Abraham stopped. Many of us hear God's word in the past, but are not listening to God in the 'now', that is why many "Isaac" have been killed. We need to keep hearing from God all the time.

It is in the experience - As we walk with God, we hear the word of God.

- We need to broaden our perceptions about how God can speak to us.
- Our capacity to hear God comes through our exposure to the word of God. You will be able to hear God more when you know more of His word.

Faith comes by hearing the living voice of God.

- Faith comes by hearing, not just the scriptures but the living voice of God.
- Sometimes when you read scripture, you cannot understand all of it, but God can still speak to you through His Spirit.

The Spirit man learns before the natural man.

- We need to be sensitive to the voice of God. It can be seemingly a passing thought or a still small voice.
- The presence of God is the voice. When you come to prayer, you come to the presence of God, where things will be awakened in your spirit if you come with the right attitude. God can speak to you right now, but you may not be able to hear it.

Our attitude, inclination & heart posture is so important for us to hear from God.

Sometimes we are not hungry enough to make an effort to approach God. There needs to be an anticipation that God will do something when we come to Sunday services or prayer meetings.

God can speak clearly, but our attitude, inclination & heart posture is so important for us to hear from God.

John 7:17 - anyone who wants to do the wills of God will know if my teaching is from God.

If we decide in our hearts to do the will of God, then we will know. This is dealing with attitude.

If you are willing to obey, your hearing will be clearer.

John 12:28, 29 When the crowd heard the voice of God, some thought it was thunder, while others thought it was an angel. Thunder is in the natural realm, but an angel is from supernatural. Are you hearing more from the natural or supernatural?

Jesus performed many miracles when He was on earth, but people still did not believe. Miracles, signs, and wonders are to point us to our relationship with Jesus. Their hearts have been hardened. God can speak clearly, but people still may not respond to faith.

To live by the Spirit means to live in continuous anticipation of what God is doing and saying.

Our attitude of surrender and humility is the key to God's house.

- It is time for us to surrender our ways, sometimes we are caught up in our busyness of life that we do not have time for God. But God is always speaking. We need to read the word of God, journal the word of God.
- God wants to give you the key to His house, the dwelling place of God. There is an abiding place in us. Our attitude of surrender and humility is the key to God's house.
- 2 Chronicles 7: 14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face...then will I hear from heaven...
- We must learn to be people that say "yes" before God speaks.

Questions:

1. When you come to church or connect group, do you anticipate that you will hear God? Share some of the negative and positive thoughts before you join Sunday service or connect group.
2. Share some of your personal experiences when you have a passing thought or an impression that is from God. How did you respond to that and what is the outcome?
3. What can you do practically to incline your ears to God?
4. Share your experiences of speaking in tongues. Examine how this practice strengthens you and helps you overcome your weaknesses or the challenges you are facing.
5. Is there anything or any area that you need to surrender and say "yes" to God? Share in pairs and pray for each other.

Things to try:

- Be disciplined in journaling daily. Try Ps David Mok's way of journaling ([click here](#) to get a fresh understanding of the way to journal). Obey the word you hear every day and begin to see how God leads you to the path He has prepared for you.