

Push & Pull: Embracing the Tensions of Our Faith

Week Four: The Rhythm of YES & NO

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In order to say YES to the things God's man is called into he:

Says no to _____ in order to say yes to _____.

"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many." - Matthew 20:28

Our world wrongly believes that success is measured in how much we are "served" but God's man knows it is how much he "serves" that is the measure of a man. It's counter-cultural!

"But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them..... and they can't understand it....." – 1 Corinthians 2:14

The true nature of serving: we _____, that another might _____.

Jesus Christ **DESCENDED** that we might be **LIFTED UP**....

Jesus Christ **BECAME SIN** that we might be **WASHED CLEAN OF IT**....

Jesus Christ **GAVE HIMSELF AWAY** that we might be **RECEIVE HIS FORGIVENESS**....

....in short Jesus **LOST** that we might **WIN!**

Christ gave us the ultimate example of service in His death on the cross, but He was modeling this for his boys (and us) long before that day....

Read John 13:4-5

Why was Jesus able to serve so freely? How could he choose such humility?

Verse 3 ***"Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. So he got up...."***

Because Jesus _____, he was _____.

Read Matthew 6:19-21

God's man has decided that only God's opinion matters....that his only true joy is serving the King and that....oftentimes.....

Our greatest opportunity to _____ is to _____.

Read Matthew 20:25-28

Jesus doesn't _____ greatness, he _____ it.

God's man says NO to his own _____, in order to say YES to God's _____.

Read Philippians 2:5 – We don't need more people willing to _____ into influence, but rather _____ into service.

In order to say NO to _____, God's man says YES to _____.

“God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” – James 4:6

God's man says NO to _____, and YES to _____.

Saying _____ to culture, always means saying _____ to people.

God's man says NO to _____, in order to submit to _____.

For Discussion:

1. Where is God calling you to “step down” into service? What steps do you need to take today in obedience?
2. Our world's celebration of ego, accomplishment and pride is pervasive. How can we practically choose humility? How does this play out in our relationships?
3. God's Man will follow the Lamb “wherever he goes” is there somewhere Jesus is calling you today that scares you? How can you step into that fear in faith?