

SMALL GROUPS

LIFE IS BETTER TOGETHER

“What God Can Do When Things Go Wrong”

ICEBREAKER |

Frustrations come in all different shapes and sizes. The small ones we call “pet peeves.” What is your biggest pet peeve?

INTRODUCTION |

We all have bad days. And most of us have really bad days. Anything that can go wrong, does go wrong! What do we do when that happens? We can get frustrated, angry, or even depressed. Or we can turn to God in our time of need. Today, Pastor Dave taught us about a time when everything went wrong, but Jesus made it right. And He can do the same for you.

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The first thing we do when things go wrong is turn to God in prayer expecting Him to answer us. Mary, Jesus’ mother, did just that in the story from John 2. She persisted even when Jesus said “No”. Read this passage together:

“Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.”

Matthew 7:7 (NLT)

Jesus wants us to keep on asking! When we hit a roadblock in life, we have to keep on going in prayer.

There are two mentalities that stop us from persisting in prayer – “fix it” or “frustrated.” We either give up and try to solve it on our own, or throw our hands up because we don’t think God will answer us. Which describes your natural response when things go wrong?

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Persistence pays off! That’s because it is the believer’s response of faith. Faith can activate God’s power in your situation. No matter how big the hurdle is, God can and will answer you!

“If you have faith in God and don’t doubt, you can tell this mountain to get up and jump into the sea, and it will.”

Mark 11:23 (CEV)

Romans 10:17 (NKJV) says, “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” So, let’s hear it! Tell us about a time when God came through for you when you thought no one else could.

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The next step in our response when things go wrong is to obey God. We must do what Jesus is telling us to do. Don't skip out on praying for your answer, but also don't delay in doing what you are asked to do.

Jesus replied, "But even more blessed are all who hear the word of God and put it into practice."

Luke 11:28 (NLT)

We will always be given an assignment by God while we wait for His answer. In fact, our obedience will lead us directly into the path of His blessing.

There are lots of reasons why we put off obeying God. For instance, we may think it's too hard, it doesn't make sense, or we just don't want to do it. Which of those reasons best describes you when you delay obedience?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

When you are learning a skill, you don't stop when you fail the first time. You persist and follow through. Whether it's grooving your golf swing, playing the piano, helping your kid with algebra, or designing a website – you can do just about anything if you persist and follow through. This week, when something goes wrong...

- Persist in prayer to the One who has the answer.
- Follow through in obedience to what He is calling you to do.

S.O.A.P.

Day 1: *After Jesus left the girl's home, two blind men followed along behind Him, shouting, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" They went right into the house where He was staying, and Jesus asked them, "Do you believe I can make you see?" "Yes, Lord," they told Him, "we do." Then He touched their eyes and said, "Because of your faith, it will happen."*

Matthew 9:27-29 (NLT)

Day 2: *But God shows undeserved kindness to everyone. That's why He appointed Christ Jesus to choose you to share in His eternal glory. You will suffer for a while, but God will make you complete, steady, strong, and firm.*

1 Peter 5:10 (CEV)

Day 3: *Loving God means keeping His commandments, and His commandments are not burdensome.*

1 John 5:3 (NLT)

Day 4: *If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land.*

Isaiah 1:19 (NIV)

Day 5: *We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when we are knocked down, we get up again.*

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (CEV)