

MARINERS CHURCH



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"All the ways of the Lord are loving." Psalm 25:10

EXPECT the grace to handle life.

His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness. 2 Peter 2:13 (NAS)

"Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me but He said, 'My grace is sufficient for you for My power is made perfect in weakness.'" 2 Corinthians 12:7-9

THANK GOD through it all.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

Then David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly: "O LORD, the God of our ancestor Israel, may you be praised forever and ever! Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O LORD, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. 1 Chronicles 29:10-11 (NLT)

"Those who know the Lord will trust the Lord." Psalms 9:10

Talk it Over! For my thoughts and LifeGroup*

Share about a time when God's "No's" were becoming overwhelming to you. How did you handle it? How long did it last?

Together read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. Who wrote this? What do you think his experience was? Did his 'thorn in the flesh' help him or hinder him? How and why?

Have you ever had a 'thorn' that God has not removed and you have an inkling of why He hasn't? What was it (or, what IS it)?

How would we help someone who is beginning to lose faith and trust in the goodness of God? What are some truths we could share and actions that we could do?

Sometimes God's "no" overwhelms and someone in the group may feel at that point. Let them share and then take time to pray together.

*A LifeGroup is a group of people who are committed to loving each other and growing through the ups and downs of life. For more information, connect with the church, marinerschurch@marinerscc.org



When God Say No

July 3, 2022

I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." -Jesus, John 16:23-24 (NIV)

ALL TIMES, as I draw near to God, I get the dynamic closeness of relationship with a loving Father who is with me and cares about me.

Why Does God say No?

He sees the big picture.

"God knows about everyone everywhere. Everything about us is bare and wide open to the all-seeing eyes of our living God. Nothing can be hidden from Him." Hebrews 4:13

He has better plan.

For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:9

He has a greater purpose.

The LORD has made everything for his own purposes. Proverbs 16:4 (NLT)

I want to focus on my comfort and God wants me to focus on character. I want to focus on the temporary while God wants us to focus on eternal purposes.

"The purpose of these troubles is to test your faith as fire tests how genuine gold is. Your faith is more precious than gold." 1 Peter 1:7

"Therefore we do not lose heart for our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all." 2 Corinthians 4:16

So I can serve someone else.

I can change by...

TRUST that everything God does is motivated by love.