

Small Group leader notes - August 27, 2006

1. David desired and pursued God as the center of His life and the nation of Israel. How do you desire and pursue God as the center of your life?

This requires an inner drawing to God and His word. Desire and pursuit of God as center of my life is an indication that He is Lord of my life. If He is Lord of my life I will want to spend time with Him (quiet time), come to know Him more (His word), talk with Him (prayer), and become like Him as I serve for His kingdom and learn to love people the way He does.

2. What might be preventing you from saying yes to God as the center of your life?

Answers will vary but often our busy schedules push God from the center. Family, especially children, can become more important than God and take center stage. Relationships with the opposite sex can become the center of a person's life leaving no room for God. Pursuit of success, in finances, career, sports, even ministry can keep God from the center if you allow it.

Standing on His promises means saying yes to God. We know, claim, and believe His promises. In Psalm 132:15-18, God promises to: bless us, satisfy us, save us, bring joy, give us strength (horn), be our direction (lamp), and give us victory (crown).

3. Do you say yes to knowing, claiming, and believing each of these promises? If you do, God says yes to you. (Read 2 Corinthians 1:20)

**2 Corinthians 1:20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.** God has fulfilled and signed His name to every promise because of Christ Jesus.

4. Read 2 Peter 1:3-4 - What is God's word saying to you in these verses?

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

In these verse I learn and know that the power of God which was demonstrated in Christ Jesus, has supplied everything I need for this life and to become holy and pleasing to the Lord.

5. How has standing on the promises of God helped you with everything you need in life?

God has shown me how he will bless me and take care of my needs if I just trust in his promises and say yes to him as the center of my life. Time and time again, God has helped me when in need to overcome fear, grief, frustration, confusion, and feeling defeated. When God has not been the center of my life, I have struggled in every way. I realize that during the most fruitful and joy filled days of my life is when I saw God moving the most and also those are the times that God is directly the center focus of my life.

This Week's Meditation: Read about God's promises by going to Pastor Tim's Blog at [www.evcsj.com](http://www.evcsj.com)

We have started a "blog" on the EVC website that will post additional notes and information. Go to the blog this week called "standing on the promises for more study options.

## Group leader reminders:

- 9/23 we are having our leadership retreat at a beach house in Manresa beach and you are invited.
- Coming up in October, our 5:1 Spiritual Growth small group focus.
- We want to begin additional groups so encourage those men in your group ready to take on a leadership role. We want to multiply, not divide!
- October 7th is day in the park event. We want a lot of small group involvement as we serve together.
- October 31st is the "trunk or treat" event. We want to see small groups come together as teams for this event.
- I am planning to organize and hold a future group leader training session (perhaps in early November) on bringing evangelism into your group experience. Date to be determined but let me know your thoughts and who else you might want to get involved with this type of training to bring back to your small group.

Thanks for all your support to our golf tournament. It was a great success with many volunteers and so many of our groups helped with sponsoring baskets to make it even better.