

**Series: You Asked for It**

**Title: “Does God ever get tired of us saying no?”**

**Text: (Gen 32:24-32)**

*Illus: Wrestling in High School*

(Gen 6:3) *And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.*

(James 4:5-8) The Holy Spirit “*Lusteth*”

(Vs 6) God “*Resisteth*” the proud.

(Vs 10) “*Humble yourselves*” the choice is ours.

**Salvation: Takes Surrender**

(Lk 19:10) He came seeking us.

*Illus: The only Religion in the World where deity seeks us.*

(Acts 9:1-2) Saul wanted a relationship with God in his own terms.

(Acts 9:3-4) Jesus Came seeking Saul.

God gets on our trail.

(John 6:44) *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

He won't let up.

***Does God ever get tired of us saying no? YES!***

We are not guaranteed a tomorrow!

(James 4:14) *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.*

We should accept God's offer now and not delay:

(2 Cor 6:2) *(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)*

(Gen 32:25) God crippled Jacob to change Jacob's will.

When we tell God NO! We are wrestling with God!

God Tugs at your heart - Our Pride wrestles with God.

*What will people think?*

*I have mocked Christians in the past.*

WHO CARES! ***Stop Wrestling with God & Get Saved!***

**Separation: Takes Surrender**

***When Jacob became God's child, God gave him a new Identity.*** (Gen 32:27-28)

(Gen 32:28-29) *And he said unto him, what is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.*

***His former Identity was made up of his behaviors.***

The name Jacob meant deceiver, or trickster.

(Gen 25:26a) *And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's **HEEL**; and his name was called Jacob:*

**Jacob was a piece of work**

***Jacob stole Esau's Birthright:*** (Gen 25:29-34)

Explain the Story

***Jacob stole Esau's blessing, thus his Inheritance:***

Explain the Story (Gen 27:34-41)

***Jacob cheated his father in law in advancing his own flocks in quality and quantity.***

(Gen 30:41-42)

***God Met Jacob to confront him and give him One last opportunity to submit willingly.*** (Gen 32:27-28)

***Does God ever get tired of us saying no? YES!***

(Gen 32:25) God crippled Jacob to change Jacob's will.

When we tell God NO! We are wrestling with God!

***When Jacob wrestled with God and submitted to God, God gave him a new identity.***

(Gen 32:28) *And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.*

***We get a new Identity when we trust Christ as Our Saviour:***

(2 Cor 5:17) *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

***We are Wrestling with God when we identify ourselves by our behavior's:***

Illus: *Do you behave like your parents?*

*Do you have the same traits?*

*Do things the same way? Etc.*

*Has anyone ever said, I can tell your a (insert dad's name)*

(John 8:)

*38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with **YOUR FATHER**.*

*41 Ye do the deeds of **YOUR FATHER**. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.*

*42 Jesus said unto them, If God were **YOUR FATHER**, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.*

*44 Ye are of **YOUR FATHER** the devil, and the lusts of **YOUR FATHER** ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

(1 Cor 6:9-13) Explain the Society:

False Religion, Meats offered to Idols, Temple Prostitues

(1 Cor 6:11) ***You have a new Identity***

*And such were some of you:*

***("were" means something is different now)***

*Our Identity is not defined by our behaviors, habits, or preferences.*

*but ye are washed, (Your Condition in Christ has changed)*

*but ye are sanctified, (Your Position in Christ has changed)*

*but ye are justified (Your Identification has changed)*

***It is now...***

*in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

***Our Identity in Christ is nat based on our Behaviors.***

(Matt 5:16, 45, 48) Our actions are to identify's us with God.

***It is imperative that we EMBRACE and Surrender to this Identity.***

**In Dwelling Vs Filling Vs Walking in the Spirit: Gal 5:13-17, 22-25**

*Why do I struggle with the habits I don't like?*

*Why do I struggle with the habits I know are wrong?*

*I am a Christian, Why haven't I changed?*

*2 Cor 5:17 therefore if man be in Christ, he is a new creature.*

*When do I become the new creature?*

**In Dwelling of the Holy Spirit:** (Eph 1:13-14) *Earnest—Down payment*

He Seals you at salvation.

He reproves us

(Jn 16:7-8) *To Convince of Sin, Righteousness, Judgment*

He Guides us into all Truth (Jn 16:13a)

If we don't understand the Word, Pray about it

He will show us things to Come (Jn 16:13b)

He glorifies Christ Jn 16:14 anything that doesn't glorify Christ; thoughts, words, actions, didn't come from Him

**The Filling of the Holy Spirit:**

**In Dwelling vs. Filling Eph 5:18**

*Illus: living in the house, but not having access to all of it.*

*We get all of Him, but He doesn't get all of us.*

There is a great need today for Christians to be filled with the Spirit.

**(Eph 5:18)** *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;*

To experience the change we are looking for in our lives we need to be controlled by God's Spirit.

The filling of the Spirit of God is to be completely controlled by Him.

When we are filled with the Spirit there will be fruit present in our lives.

(Gal 5:22-23) Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Forgiveness, Gentleness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance, Concern for Souls

**In like manner:** We are not experiencing the victory in our our lives that we are desperately seeking because our flesh is wrestling against the Holy Spirit for control.

(Gal 5:17) *For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

So today we have Victory, but tomorrow we fall short. This morning we had victory, but since I received that phone call I am defeated.

I was experiencing victory, till I opened the mail, paid the bills, etc.

**Walking in the Spirit** is a **Daily Surrender** to the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:16) *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

**Walking in the Spirit means to Surrender to the Holy Spirit's Leading.**

It's Our choice, to *Walk in the Spirit or the Flesh:* (Gal 5:16a)

We are Commanded to Walk in the Spirit! (Gal 5:25)

We Have to Surrender our will, Say Yes, & Obey.

Walking in the Spirit keeps us from fulfilling the lusts of the Flesh. (Gal 5:16b)

**When we Surrender to the Spirit we are blessing to others;**

We have surrendered to **Love** instead of... **Selfishness-**

We have surrendered to **Joy** instead of... **Self Pity-**

We have surrendered to **Peace** instead of... **Fretting-**

We have surrendered to **Longsuffering** instead of **Impatience**

We have surrendered to **Forgiveness** instead of... **Rejection-**

We have surrendered to **Gentleness** instead of... **Harshness**

We have surrendered to **Faith** instead of... **Presumption**

We have surrendered to **Meekness** instead of... **Anger**

We have surrendered to **Temperance** instead of **Self Indulgence**

We have surrendered to **Concern for souls** instead of **Indifference**

**When we walk in the Spirit we are a living testimony of Christ**

**When We walk in the Spirit we glorify the Father** (Eph 2:10)

**His Life in Me** – (Col 1:27) *To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **CHRIST IN YOU**, the hope of glory:*

**His Life Through Me** – (Gal 2:20)

**When we walk in the Spirit we can say NO to Temptation**

We are able to exercise Emotional, Spiritual, and Physical Control

We are so used to living in the flesh, our habits have been formed, our thought patters, our preferences, it is a fight for the Holy Spirit to empower us to have victory.

**So How do we do it? How do we Surrender to the Spirit?**

**I. Total Dependence:** You can't fill a vessel that is already full

**We have to come to the place where we admit we need Him!**

We give ourselves, all of ourselves, every part of our selves over to the Spirit of God.

(Phil 4:13) *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

We love this verse, quote it, have it written on knickknacks, but it means ... ***"I can do Nothing without Christ"***.

(John 15:5) *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

Based on our bible reading over the last 7 days, is it evident that we believe we need Him?

Based on our prayer life, and the prayers we have had answered over the last 7 days, is it evident that we believe we need Him?

**Insanity:** *is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.*

This is the biggest part to victory.

Allot of people never get victory, because the just can't seem to believe this about themselves.

You cannot have victory without God's power working in your life.

We have to come to the end of ourselves before WE will admit WE are not OK and WE need God.

(Rom 12:1-2)

(Rom 7:22-24) We wrestle with God.

(Gal 5:17)

We let God have a little part of our lives, but not the whole!

*"Baptism"* Identifying With Christ

*"Pet Sins"*

(1 Pet 1:15-16) We Wrestle with God.

(Rom 6:12-13) *"Yielding"*

(Rom 6:14) By God's grace we don't have to be controlled by our sin.

(Rom 6:16,19) Just as we yield (surrender control) to sin, we are to yield control to God! (Gal 5:16)

*What Good has come out of you wrestling with God?*

(Rom 6:21) He is going to Win!

Let GO! Let GOD!, Surrender! (Yield Daily)

### **Service: Takes Surrender**

***We are wrestling with God when we have to be the one who says WHEN and HOW we serve.***

(1 Cor 6:19-20) We Are NOT Our OWN!

(Rom 9:20-24)

Illus: *In the tool shed: Rakes won't let go of the Rock!*

Surrender: Is to give up control and obey.

You greet and shake hands, but won't visit with others.

You will bring snacks, but won't help cleanup.

You will sing, but won't work the nursery.

You have a burden for the Widget ministry, and God knows I ***King Saal wrestled with God, and was troubled by an evil spirit.***

***Jonah wrestled with God, and is not ever used again.***

***Balaam wrestled with God, and was killed for it.***

***Does God ever get tired of us saying NO? YES!***

also care about the eternal soul of the Widgets, but right now we need a helper for the Puggles in Awana.

Your Gifts and Talents are given by God to be used.

Poochy lipped - Martyr Complex is not a gift of the Spirit.

God brought you here to keep the burden for the Widget ministry alive until we get space for a Widget Ministry.

Surrender is saying, *"Yes Lord, I am available & I will serve"*

*"Lord what do you think about this activity?"*

*"Lord would you partake of this?"*

*"Yes Lord I will Obey"*