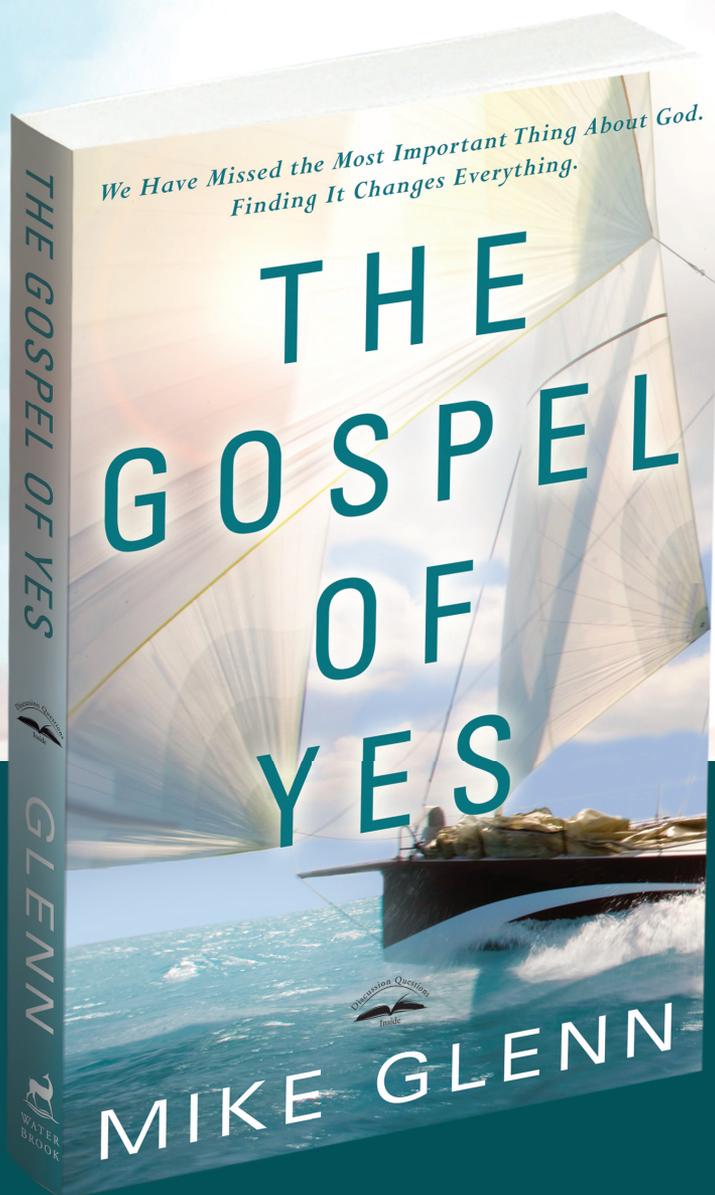


# THE GOSPEL OF YES PREACHING PLAN



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# SERMON ONE:

## The Gospel of Yes

2 Corinthians 1:18-22



### **Intro:**

I grew up in a church where every Sunday I was told what not to do. Then, we'd get together the next Sunday and praise God we hadn't done anything.

I. Jesus came preaching good news. (Mark 1:15)

a. People came to hear Jesus because of what he was for not what he was against.

II. What was the good news Jesus preached?

a. Being saved from our sinfulness

b. Being saved for a divine purpose

c. Our true identity in him

d. A relationship with the Father that can't be broken

III. Jesus said "Let your yes be yes." (Matthew 5:37)

a. Salvation is more than sin management

b. But we are offered God's Yes in Christ

c. When you say Yes to God's Yes in Christ, the No's take care of themselves

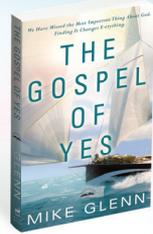
**Conclusion: *Do you know whom or what you are living for?***

***Do you know your Yes?***

# SERMON TWO:

## The Big Yes

Genesis 1:1-2:3 / Revelation 21: 5-6



### **Intro:**

Everybody seems to assume God is against everything, but that simply isn't true. God is for a lot more than he is against. In fact, God finds a way to say Yes when you thought he would say No.

- I. God's response to creation is Yes.
- II. God's call to Noah was to keep on saying Yes.
- III. The purpose of God's call of Abraham was to say Yes to the world (blessing the nations).
- IV. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is God's ultimate Yes to us.

**Conclusion:** *Like Paul in 1 Corinthians 15, we celebrate Christ's Yes to us.*

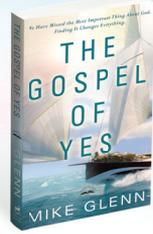


# SERMON THREE

## The Yes of Forgiveness

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Matthew 18: 21-37



### Intro:

Because we are forgiven by God through Christ, we are free to forgive others. Christ calls us to live in freedom, and forgiveness is the key to that freedom.

- I. Peter was being very generous. Seven times? How many times should we forgive? Three? Four? Seven?  
No, Jesus says 490 times.
- II. Like the servant in the story, we have been forgiven much.
- III. Like the servant, to hold a grudge against someone else is faulty comparison.
- IV. Forgiveness brings healing to allow us to fulfill Christ's will in our lives.
  - a. Releases the other person from the expectation that they can fix what they did
  - a. Holding anger in our heart takes over the place where Christ needs to be

**Conclusion: *Because Christ died for sinners, even the ones who hurt us, we are called and empowered to let the pain go. We are not defined by our pain, but by the resurrected life of Jesus Christ.***

# SERMON FOUR

## Hearing Your Yes

Acts 26: 19-20



### **Intro:**

When called on to defend his ministry, Paul replied that he had not been unfaithful to the “heavenly vision.” What vision drives your life?

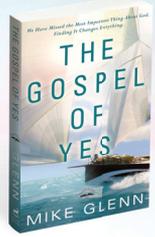
- I. It all begins with encounter (Acts 9).
  - a. Paul met Jesus on the Damascus Road. In this encounter he discovered who he was and the purpose for which he was called.
- II. Do you know who you are? Who is it that names you?
  - a. How has your family, past, culture defined you?
  - b. Christ renames us in his grace (1 Peter 2:4)
- III. You have been called to a divine purpose. (2 Corinthians 5: 17-19) We are to use our gifts to join Christ in his ministry of reconciliation.
- IV. Everyone has a gift to be used in the building up of the body of Christ and the ministry of reconciliation. (Ephesians 4: 11-16).

**Conclusion: *Only in hearing God’s Yes to us in Christ do we know who we are, and know the purpose to which we are called.***

# SERMON FIVE

## The Yes of Authentic Relationships

John 15:12-17



### **Intro:**

Most people get into relationships because they “need” something from the other person. This creates a neurotic, co-dependency, not a healthy marriage. Two wounded people do not make a healthy relationship. That makes a hospital.

- I. A healthy relationship begins with two healthy people.
  - a. We are loved and complete in Christ
  - a. We are free to love each other without needing anything from the other
- II. Love means we seek the heart of the other.
- III. Strongest witness of Christ—his people living in their Yes.

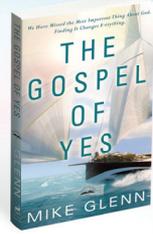
**Conclusion: *Complete in Christ, we are able to love each other and love our world.***

# SERMON SIX

## From Yes to Yes

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Philemon 1



### **Intro:**

Knowing your Yes in Christ allows you to bring out the Yes of Christ in others.

- I. Paul, a slave of Christ, writes Philemon about the slave Onesimus.
- II. Onesimus, having become a believer, was now living in the freedom of Christ's Yes. He was now a brother to Philemon.
- III. Philemon, a believer, now has the opportunity to release Onesimus to live in the full freedom of Christ.
- IV. As believers, we have the opportunity, like Paul and Philemon, to help others find their full Yes in Christ.

**Conclusion: *The Yes of Christ isn't meant to be contained in one life, but is meant to be shared with everyone.***

