

# Say Yes to the Little Things

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*The first mission trip I led to Georgia Southern University was amazing! If I had allowed the enemy's lies and my fear to keep me from obeying God, we would've missed out on a life transforming mission trip!*



*Three years later I led my first mission trip overseas to Haiti. And again, I felt fear creep up but learned to take my thoughts captive this time so that I could be obedient unto God!*



Even though I'm used to walking out paths that no one has ever walked before me, doesn't mean that I'm not fearful while doing so. Truth be told, right before I've said "yes" to every seemingly big decision God has ever wanted me to do, I first said "I'm not ready."

Can I tell you a story about the first time I told God I wasn't ready. I was doing my internship with Chi Alpha Campus Ministries at my alma mater (Columbus State University). And one of the things we're responsible for doing during the internship is leading a team of students on a mission trip. Just the year before I went on my first mission trip to the Atlanta Dream Center where I encountered God in a radical way and fell in love with evangelism. So when I was completing the internship the following year, I just assumed I would be leading a team of students back to the Atlanta Dream Center. I was looking forward to going back to a familiar place. But low and behold, I was told that they want me to take students to another college campus to minister to the college students there for our spring break mission trip. Fear instantly grabbed a hold of me because it had never been done before with our chi alpha at CSU. It was unfamiliar. The enemy was working overtime planting different lies in my head. Lies like:

"You don't know what you're doing. You've never even led a mission trip before"  
"And the first mission trip you went on was to Atlanta, GA. You didn't even leave the states, so that's not even a real mission trip."  
"Doing a mission trip on another college campus, yeah right. There's no way students will get ministered to like they did at the Atlanta Dream Center."  
"How are you supposed to advertise a trip you've never even been on."

And the list of lies just goes on and on...

So the next day, I walked into my supervisor's office, sat down on her comfy couch, and just began to weep. In between sobs I said, "It's not fair for you guys to make me lead this mission trip when I've never lead a trip before. I just went on my first mission trip last year and it was only to Atlanta, GA. I just feel like you guys are taking me from 0 - 100 and I'm not ready. And how am I supposed to convince students to go on a trip that I've never even been on before. Of course God is going to show up at the Atlanta Dream Center because there are so many different ways to encounter God. I have no idea how we're going to encounter God at another campus."

And my supervisor just looked up at me astonished at the amount of fear that I allowed to grip my heart and replied, "Well, Mary I don't know what to tell you. It sounds like you don't believe that God can do something on this mission trip and that college students don't need Jesus too."

I was surprised at my boss's lack of empathy, but it also helped me understand how absurd I was being at the time. And so after I realized there was no way to get out of the trip, I realized I was just needed to just take things one step at a time. And all of a sudden, all of the enemy's lies were diminished. Not only did students want to go on the trip, too many of them wanted to go on the trip! I had to call to see if there was more room to accommodate everyone. And when we arrived, everything didn't go as planned, but when I tell you that God met us on Georgia Southern's Campus in such a powerful way! I will never forget the first trip I lead!

And three years later, I had similar feelings when I had to lead students on my first international mission trip to Haiti. And God instantly gave me a flash back to the first mission trip I lead and all the fear that came with it. And I was reminded to take my thoughts captive and stand on truth and word of God (2 Corinthians 10:5)!

In both of those instances, and even now as I begin on a new journey to pioneer a campus ministry, I realized I didn't feel ready because I didn't know all of the details for what I was going to do next or know how everything would work out. And that's scary for me, because I'm a 5-year plan kind of girl you know lol.

But you know what, I realized that those moments of uncertainty are where God's does his best work. Because I have to fully rely on him. And when everything DOES work out, God and God alone will get the GLORY.

God reminded me of the story of the Moses and the burning bush found in Exodus 4.

*10 Moses said to the Lord, "Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."*

*11 The Lord said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? 12 Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."*

*13 But Moses said, "Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else."*

*14 Then the Lord's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. 15 You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. 16 He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. 17 But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."*

Moses gave a ton of excuses as to why "he wasn't ready" to go see Pharaoh. But you know what really blessed my soul when I read it again? God didn't become angry until Moses asked for someone else to go. God spoke to me in that moment and reminded me that I don't have to be "ready" to do what he has called me to do. I just have to be obedient. He told me to just start by saying yes to little things and he'll take care of the big things for me.

So for anyone out there who may be feeling a little overwhelmed with the call on your life or feeling stuck and don't know which move to make to be God's will, just start out with saying yes to the little things. Don't worry about being perfect or having all of the answers. So I want to challenge everyone with this question: what's one thing you can say yes to this week to be more obedient unto God?

#SayYesToTheLittleThings! #Obedience! #LifeofaPioneer!