

# **RUNNING ON EMPTY**

**Driven vs. Called (The Power of “No”)**  
Josh Hawley, Pastor of Spiritual Growth – April 28, 2013

## **Characteristics of the driven:**

- Driven by accomplishment:
- Driven by people-pleasing:

## **Characteristics of the called:**

### **How are we to understand & embrace what God is calling us to?**

- Relationships (Mark 12:28b-31)
- Character-development (Romans 8:29; Galatians 5:22-23; I Corinthians 13:4-7)
- Serving others (Ephesians 2:10)

## **What do we need to do to live out God’s calling in our lives?**

- Let the substance of our “yes” determine our power to say “no”.
- Identify what helps us say yes to God’s calling in our lives & also what takes us away from His calling in our lives.
- Prioritize & plan our lives around our “yes” and experience the freedom to say “no”.



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**Lesson Aim:** To grow in our knowledge of God’s perspective about our calling and the importance of saying, “No”.

**Prayer:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your personal study time and/or discussion.

**Icebreaker:** When it comes to getting things done, who in the group is a “list person?” For those that aren’t how do you keep track of what needs to be done?

1. On Sunday, Josh made a distinction between “being called” and “being driven.” In your own words, share with the group the point that you think Josh was trying to make.
2. What are some of the characteristics of people for whom drivenness has taken over? Which ones do you identify or struggle with?
3. How does people-pleasing lead us to lives that are “driven” instead of “called?”
4. What is the difference between people-pleasing and putting others first? How do the following verses help answer this question?  
**Colossians 3:23; 1 Corinthians 10:33-11:1; and Philippians 2:1-2**

5. When is it hard to say “no?”
6. When it is hard to decide between “yes” or “no,” what encouragement does Prov. 3:5,6 provide? What does practically applying this verse in your life look like?
7. Read **Colossians 3:23** again along with **Colossians 3:17**. How can being thankful help us to live a called life instead of a driven life?
8. As Christ followers we are God’s “handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works” according to **Ephesians 2:10** (NIV). Looking over **Ephesians 2:4-9**, what can we be thankful for that will make a difference in our “good works” (serving others)?
9. Share with your group something that has gotten your attention through Sunday’s message or this lesson.

**Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.**

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday’s message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups**! Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the “Messages” link.