



STUDY GUIDE

GOOD SAYINGS GONE BAD 08.25.2019

[start with prayer]

Missions Prayer Focus this week:
Guy Stevens—Church Planter of Edge Church

[set up]

What are some phrases or sayings you have heard Christians say that are not actually true or biblically accurate?

Although they may seem well intentioned or harmless, how can they be dangerous to us?

[digging deeper]

Last weekend we looked at one of those sayings - “God won’t give you more than you can handle.”

Have you heard that before? In what context usually? What do you think people mean when they say that?

Look up 1 Corinthians 10:13. This is the verse that has morphed into or influenced the saying “God won’t give you more than you can handle.” Now that you have read the verse, what are a few immediate observations in how this saying is used inaccurately?

What false theology is being shared (innocently and accidentally) when this saying is used with people feeling overwhelmed or discouraged? What is the specific danger (theologically) of this statement becoming accepted and acted upon?

Separate your LifeGroup into two groups. Give each group one minute to list as many people in the Bible as possible who were given more than they can handle. See which group wins by coming up with the most names.

What does this little exercise show us?

For a more accurate and biblical understanding of what God’s people experience and why, look at 2 Corinthians 1:4-9.

What was Paul feeling? Does it sound like he’s saying, “God won’t give me more than I can handle”?

What was the reason God let Paul and other believers experience such great affliction?

What does that tell us about why God allows us to experience affliction?

(over)

Read all or some of these verses and summarize in how we can be encouraged when we are experiencing more than we can handle. (Option - you can divide and conquer these in your LifeGroup and then have a time to share with each other what you have learned after 15 minutes.)

2 Corinthians 4:7-9
Isaiah 41:10
Psalm 46:1
Romans 5:3-5

Deuteronomy 31:6
Ephesians 6:10
Psalm 28:7-8
2Corinthians 12:8-10

Deuteronomy 31:8
Matthew 28:20
Ephesians 3:16

Joshua 1:9
Psalm 23:4
Isaiah 40:31

What are 3 conclusion you came to from these verses?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

[living it out]

Instead of saying, "God won't give you more than you can handle," what is a phrase we can say that would be more biblically accurate (or even a verse to share)?

What is one situation or area of your life that you may be tempted to "handle" where you need to rely on God more?

Take some time to really pray over what you have studied. You can:

- Pray prayers of confession for thinking you have had to handle certain aspects of your life and for trying to do so instead of relying on God.
- Pray prayers of thanksgiving for seeing how God has shown up, especially when you were in over your head.
- Pray requests, asking God to help you rely more on Him than yourself (to look upward rather than inward), ask for help with situations you are going through right now, pray for people you know and love going through a hard time, that they would rely on God not themselves.