

Dear God...

### #3: How To Keep Your Faith Alive When God Says No

#### 1. Remember every “NO” has a reason

a) It's not what's best for you

**2 Corinthians 12:8-9** *Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.*

b) It's not about you right now

**Matthew 26:39** *He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, “My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”*

c) You won't know until eternity

**Isaiah 55:8-9** *“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the LORD. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.”*

#### 2. Re-engage with God

a) Be honest with God about how you feel

**Habakkuk 1:1-4** *O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save?*

b) Tell God you still trust Him

**Job 13:15** *Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him...*

Key: Never judge in the middle

c) Give thanks before you see why

**1 Thessalonians 5:18** *...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*“God, even in the middle of this, I still believe in you. I know you love me even though this hurts. I know you have a reason for this even though I can't see it. I will keep following you.”*