

Whenever we set out to accomplish something, there will always be obstacles. This includes when we set out to share our faith with others and tell them what God has done in our lives. This week we are going to examine a few of those obstacles and learn how God has already helped us overcome them.

1. Share an experience of when you were pursuing a goal and you were met with obstacles and opposition.
2. One of the obstacles we face that may keep us from telling others about Jesus is our hopes. When our desires are the only thing driving us, they get in the way of the purpose God has for us. When we start talking openly about Jesus to others, we are putting our own dreams and desires on the line. How do you imagine people reacting when you tell them about Jesus?
3. We learn from the Bible that many of the things we chase in this world never bring true satisfaction. God created us with a void only He is big enough to fill. Where in your life can you feel your desires competing with God's desires for you? Try out this simple prayer this week: "God, I want what you want." (Further Study: Proverbs 19:2, Ecclesiastes 1:12-15 and 12:13, Psalm 107:9)
4. The second obstacle discussed was our hurts. Many of us have, at one time or another, felt wounded, betrayed, or vulnerable. But instead of hiding our hurts, God wants us to bring our hurts to Him so that He can comfort us. Then after God comforts us, He asks us to use our experiences to comfort others. Discuss a time when God took an ugly situation, turned it around or took you through it, and was able to use you to comfort someone else through something similar. (Further Study: 2 Corinthians 1:2-7)
5. The final obstacle addressed is our past. We all make mistakes. However, no matter what those mistakes were, God still wants to use us to change the world. As much as you are comfortable, discuss with your Life Group some reasons you think God wouldn't use you to help others. Then **Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17**. Not only can God use you, but He wants to use

you!

6. **Read John 16:33.** What are we waiting for? Jesus has already overcome all of the obstacles we face, including the ones we face when we share our faith. Be bold this week; share your faith journey with someone. Tell someone about the comfort of Jesus. Invite your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to experience “No Greater Love” with us this Easter!