God Says

Introduction

Simon Says explanation (lose when doing an action that Simon didn’t say) – SS touch nose, SS give thumbs up, raise hand

It can be a fun game and one where listening and attention skills are flexed

SS pick up bible, what if I say SS put down your bible and don’t use it anymore? …hopefully no one puts it down

**Acts 5:27-29**

* What God says is infinitely more important to heed than what any person may say
* We are to always be participating in this activity of “God Says” – similarly as with the Simon Says game – we are to perform the actions that God commands and allows, and not those told to us by anyone else – those God did not say

Before looking at what God says lets first focus briefly on the other part of the activity

Not Heeding What God Says

**Rev. 22:18-19**

* Though this particular warning is for the book of Revelation, we can find similar warnings throughout the Scriptures – and this warning is quite clear in that we are not to add to God’s word, nor are we to take anything away
* We do not have authority to provide our own commands for people to follow – we cannot say “Simon Says do this” – and if someone comes to us saying “I say or think this” – if they provide commands that are not found in the Scriptures or dismiss commands that are in the Scriptures – we better not follow them
* Instead we have authority to point people to the Bible and what God says – we can say “God says to do this or that”, as long as He has actually commanded those things in His word

**1 Cor. 4:6**

* Do not go beyond the Scriptures – the written word – the word of God
* We are not to add our own content or flavour to what God has said
* We should not overstep our own authority or begin thinking that we know best and can therefore tell others what they need to do, as based on our own wisdom

**1 Cor. 3:19-20; 1:25**

* Our own wisdom is flawed – in comparison to God’s great wisdom, man’s is foolishness – and thus we are not fit to command – but God, the Almighty Creator, is
* So we’ve seen mankind’s commands are not fit to be followed, but God’s are – let’s continue looking at the power of what God says and further at the need to obey His word

What God Says Is Truth

**Gen. 1:3, 6-7, 9, 11, 14-15, 20-21, 24, 26-27**

* God said, God said, God said – and it happened
* God said…
* What God says happens – what He says becomes true – what He says is true and is the truth

**Psa. 33:4-5**

* God loves what is good and true and righteous – He is the God of truth and order
* Everything God does is done in truth; everything He says is right and is truth – we can be confident in the word of God because we are certain that what God has said will happen – we can be confident that what He tells us to do is something that needs to be done
* God’s words will not steer us wrong because He cannot lie – all that God says is true

**John 17:17**

* Again: God’s word is truth, but beyond that – the truth, that is God’s word, can sanctify us – it can set us apart from the world – from those who are lost – it can set us apart from our sins and it can make us free

**John 8:32**

* We are told that the truth can and will make us free
* What God says should fill us with hope – what He says will fill us with the knowledge to be freed from our sins, but there is a condition as found in this verse: “you shall know the truth”
* This leads into our next point of God’s word

To Be With God We Must Listen To What He Says

God’s word is required – it is necessary for those who wish to be close to God – to be with Him now and forever – we need to know the truth – we need to hear what God says, listen to it, and learn it, so that we know how to be set free

Those who know the truth from what God says, will be made free – so we need to know it by listening to God’s word and heeding it – we need to follow God’s word

**John 8:47**

* Those of God hear Him and listen to Him – those who are close to God are those who listen to what He says – they are those who when they hear “God says do this” – they do it
* On the other hand those who dismiss God’s word who add to it, take away from it, or outright disregard all of it – those are not of God and will not be with Him – and will not inherit the many wonders that are reserved for those who do listen to what God says

What God Says Is Comforting

**Prov. 16:20**

* There is great comfort found in what God says – as mentioned earlier briefly, the truth that is God’s word can fill us with great hope
* And heeding God’s word and obeying it leads to great peace and comfort – especially in the life to come in our new home, but even on this earth, as we obey God and do what He has commanded, we can be comforted and filled with great peace and joy – we find much good

Let’s take a look at a number of passages from God’s word that provide examples of how what God says can be so very comforting for us; we’ll take a look at this nice little poem or article from robinsweb.com with some passages added to back up the article.

G o d S a y s: (robinsweb.com)

You say: "It's impossible."

God says: All things are possible. (Luke 18:27)

* Luke 18:27 says, But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”
* Matthew 19:26 says, But Jesus looked at *them* and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

You say: "I'm too tired."

God says: I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28-30)

* Matthew 11:28-30 says, Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **29**Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30**For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.”

You say: "Nobody really loves me."

God says: I love you. (John 3:16 & John 13:34)

* John 3:16 says, For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
* John 13:34 says, A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; **as I have loved you**, that you also love one another.

You say: "I can't go on."

God says: My grace is sufficient. (II Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)

* 2 Cor. 12:9 says, And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
* Psalm 91:14-15 says, “Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;  
  I will set him on high, because he has known My name.  
  **15**He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;  
  **I *will be* with him in trouble;  
  I will deliver him and honor him**.

You say: "I can't figure things out."

God says: I will direct your steps. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

* Prov. 3:5-6 says, Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
  And lean not on your own understanding;  
  **6**In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
  And He shall direct**[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=proverbs%203:5-6&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-16462a)**]** your paths.

You say: "I can't do it."

God says: You can do all things. (Philippians 4:13)

* Phil. 4:13 says, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

You say: "I'm not able."

God says: I am able. (II Corinthians 9:8)

* 2 Cor. 9:8 says, And **God *is* able to make all grace** abound toward you, that you, always having **all sufficiency in all *things****,* may have an abundance for every good work.

You say: "It's not worth it."

God says: It will be worth it. (Roman 8:28)

* Rom. 8:28 says, And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

You say: "I can't forgive myself."

God says: I FORGIVE YOU. (I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)

* 1 John 1:9 says, If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
* Rom. 8:1 says, *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

You say: "I can't manage."

God says: I will supply all your needs. (Philippians 4:19)

* Phil. 4:19 says, And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

You say: "I'm afraid."

God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear. (II Timothy 1:7)

* 2 Tim. 1:7 says, For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated."

You say: "I don't have enough faith."

God says: I've given everyone a measure of faith. (Romans 12:3)

* Rom. 12:3 says, For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, **as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith**.

You say: "I'm not smart enough."

God says: I give you wisdom. (I Corinthians 1:30)

* 1 Cor. 1:30 says, But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, **who became for us wisdom from God**—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—

You say: "I feel all alone."

God says: I will never leave you or forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5)

* Heb. 13:5 says, *Let your* conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

Conclusion

God says…

Simon Says is a game often played by the young once in a while

God Says is a way of life, intended for all, to be participated in always

We ought not heed the words of men, nor rely on our own wisdom – God’s word is truth and is designed for us to follow. If we wish to be with God now and we wish to be with Him in that grand eternal paradise, we must hear His word and apply it to our lives – we must obey what God says.

And why would we not want to? God’s word is filled with so many wondrous comforts and joys. His word is for our own well-being and the benefit of all. God is always there for us and His word is always there for us. The reward is more than worth the trial, so let us continue to heed what God says.