

Chosen by God

A SUMMER  
RECHARGE SERIES

# Obstacles in Cultivation

SESSION 2  
AUGUST 1, 2023

## Welcome & Opening

STACY BOYER

**This is what the Lord says: The person who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence indeed is the Lord, is blessed.**  
We are those people who trust in the Lord. I am the one who places my confidence in God. And it blesses Creator, the Chooser of My Soul, the Remover of Obstacles in the field of my heart.

**This is what the Lord says: They will be like a tree planted by water.**

We are the trees planted by the water. I am the tree planted by Living Water. Jesus chose this place along the river bank just for me.

**This is what the Lord says: It sends its roots out toward the stream.**

Our roots stretch deep to drink from the bubbling brook. My roots twist and turn always reaching towards the Stream of Life.

**This is what the Lord says: It doesn't fear when heat comes, and its foliage remains green.**

In seasons of lush growth and seasons of drought I will not fear, for God removes all obstacles to growth in perfect timing and perfect ways.

**We are called to live in God. Rooted and built up. For you were, you are chosen. God's invitation invites your response.**

We say yes, God

We accept the invitation to Your love

We say yes, God

You and You alone can have it all

Jeremiah 17:7-9, adapted, "We Say Yes" chorus lyrics

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KRISTIN ROCKWELL

Notes

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## Song of Blessing

**WE SAY YES  
HOUSEFIRES**

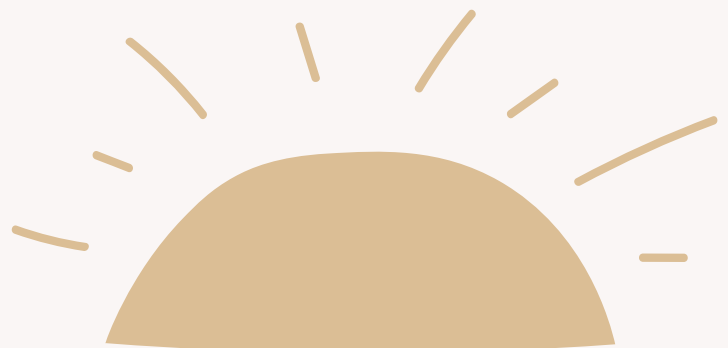
*You knock on the door of my heart  
And I will answer You  
I will answer You  
You make me a covenant of love  
And I will walk with You  
Yes, I will walk with You*

*I'm not afraid  
I'm not afraid anymore  
Your love has made a way*

*We say yes, God  
We accept the invitation to Your love  
We say yes, God  
You and You alone can have it all*

*You lead me by waters that are calm  
And I will follow You  
I will follow You  
You're dancing and singing over us  
And I will dance with You  
I will dance with You*

*I've made up my mind, I've got  
No more excuses so  
We open the door and we let You in.*



# Obstacles in Cultivation

## REFLECTION

*A gentle reminder before you begin... we will return to session at 7:50*

Take a moment to be present to Spirit... to yourself... to this moment.  
Breathe in... breathe out... breathe in... breathe out...



*Come to me*

*all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me... listen as Jesus invites you into the yoke of cultivation. Imagine saying yes as you step into the yoke beside Jesus. What stirs in your heart as you consider the work of cultivation? How does it feel?

Notice the One next to you. What does Jesus say to you with words, or expression, or perhaps body language? How does this stir your emotions?

As you take first steps with Jesus consider the field of your heart. What obstacles loom on the horizon ahead of you? Is there resistance to move forward? Perhaps you want to go another direction? Maybe you desire to move at a different pace?

How do you notice this in the souls of those God brings to you?

What feels heavy laden? too weighty to carry on your own? What obstacle creates unrest in your soul? In the souls of others?

How might you join Jesus in the rhythm of your own cultivation? The cultivation of those you journey with in ministry?