

REACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

Community Group Discussion Guide

Series: Re-Actions Speak Louder

Week 2: Over and Under

Intro

We all have moments when someone perturbs us, disturbs us, or just flat-out gets on our nerves. Our first instinct is often to strike back or shut down. But Jesus shows us another way: a way that seems weak at first, but actually reveals great strength — entrusting the outcome to God.

This week we'll look at how our reactions reveal our confidence in God's sovereignty, and what it means to "over-underreact" like Jesus did.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 5:44–45.

Jesus commands us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us.

- Why does Jesus connect this to being "children of your Father in heaven"?
- How does our reaction reveal who we belong to?

2. Read Luke 9:51–56.

James and John wanted to call down fire when they felt disrespected. Jesus rebuked them.

- Why do you think they reacted that way?
- What does Jesus' response teach us about where real strength lies?

3. Read John 19:10–11.

Standing before Pilate, Jesus says, "You would have no power over me if it were not given from above."

- What does this reveal about Jesus' confidence in God?
- How could that perspective reshape how we respond when we feel powerless?

4. Read 1 Peter 2:23.

Peter reflects on Jesus: "When they hurled insults at him, he did not retaliate... Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly."

- What does it mean to entrust yourself to God in the middle of mistreatment?
- What's hardest for you about that?

5. Read Romans 8:28.

Romans 8:28 says that God works all things together for good.

- How does trusting this truth change the way we react when things don't go our way?
- Share an example of a time when you saw God bring good out of something frustrating or unfair.

6. Practical Application

Think of one situation or relationship where you tend to overreact.

- What would it look like this week to respond with calm confidence in God instead?
- What "over-underreaction" might point people to Him?

Outro

Reactions speak louder than words. When we retaliate, we show we're relying on ourselves. But when we over-underreact with patience, grace, and confidence, we reflect the God we trust.

This week, ask yourself in every conflict:

"What would it look like if I were absolutely confident that God is in control of the outcome?"