



## HOLY INTERRUPTIONS.

Jesus got interrupted... *a lot*.

It seemed as if every time he walked from one place to another, someone else would call out to him or tug on his coat or climb in his lap (okay, that last example specifically applies to children.)

Jesus met a woman at the well on his way to Galilea and ended up staying in her town for two whole days. He was simply passing through Jericho when he met Zacchaeus and declared, "I'm comin' over!" A blind man in the crowd called out to Jesus until he got his attention and Jesus stopped to restore his sight.

But Jesus never responded to those interruptions with haste or irritation. He responded with patience, with conversation, with healing. Jesus made space in his life for holy interruptions... and he calls us to do this same.

When Jesus gave his last command to "go and make disciples," he was telling us to do it in the midst of our everyday lives - and to do that, we need to *have space* in our everyday lives. Unhurried time for holy interruptions, spontaneous conversations, and for God to move in unexpected ways.

# IN THE BIBLE.

## **John 4:39-41**

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. 41 And because of his words many more became believers.

## **Matthew 28:18-20**

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

## **Romans 12:1 (from The Message translation)**

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.

## **Ephesians 2:21-25**

Some people work wisely with knowledge and skill, then must leave the fruit of their efforts to someone who hasn't worked for it. This, too, is meaningless, a great tragedy. 22 So what do people get in this life for all their hard work and anxiety? 23 Their days of labor are filled with pain and grief; even at night their minds cannot rest. It is all meaningless. 24 So I decided there is nothing better than to enjoy food and drink and to find satisfaction in work. Then I realized that these pleasures are from the hand of God. 25 For who can eat or enjoy anything apart from him?

# QUESTIONS.

- 1.) How did safer-at-home orders, etc. affect how you spend your time?
- 2.) How did Jesus prioritize his time? (If you have examples from Scripture, share them!)
- 3.) Does your "normal" life allow time for interruptions?
- 4.) If not, how do you think you can begin to restructure and reprioritize your time?
- 5.) Has someone ever paused their life to help, chat, listen, etc. for you? What happened? What impact did it have on you?

## TAKE TEN:

- How did you see God work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here? (in your life/circumstance)
- How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

## **Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:**

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?