

10-23-16 Message
God Speaks Through Circumstances
Unit 6 Day 2,3 of Experiencing God

Introduction:

●God saved us for the purpose of u_____ us in accomplishing His work (Eph 2:10; 2Tim 2:21; 3:16,17).

1. God must i_____ us to do His work
2. How does God speak through circumstances to invite us?

Don't view every opportunity as a heavenly invitation (Ex 18:13-18)

●Moses began giving c_____ to masses of people (v.13)

1. He justified this by his knowledge of God's l_____ (v. 16)
2. The work n_____ got done

●Jethro advises Moses (vv 17-23)

1. To t_____ people God's laws (v. 20)
2. To t_____ certain ones to settle disputes (v. 21)
3. To only deal with m_____ disputes (v. 22)

●How does this apply to our lives:

1. Every church that interviewed me to be their pastor said "yes" unanimously (half a dozen or so) – is this God inviting me?
2. After pastoring LBC for a few years I was issued an invitation to interview in an Illinois church that would pay me triple my salary – is this God inviting me?
3. Is every opportunity an invitation from God? _____
 - a. Hitch-hikers
 - b. Homeless person
 - c. People in financial pinches
 - d. People in relational conflict
 - e. Obituaries

●Opportunity knocking does not e_____ God inviting.

Don't view any adversity with earthly eyes (Jms 1:2-4)

●All adversity are t_____ of our faithfulness to God (v. 3)

1. We are to be j_____ when experiencing adversity (v. 2)
 - a. God will use this adversity to make us s_____ if we let Him (Rom 8:28)
 - b. Our joy is not to be anchored in our circumstances (this changes) but in our relationship to the L_____ (He never changes).
2. So let adversity have its God-intended result – to p_____ you, which is a Greek way of saying to grow you (Jms 1:4).

When you see God working, He is inviting you (Jn 5:17-20)

●Did Jesus take every opportunity to heal?

1. Matt 13:58 – Jesus did not do many miracles in Nazareth because of their _____.
2. John 11 – Jesus did not heal Lazarus, but let him d_____.
3. ●Jesus did nothing on His o_____ but only ministered when He saw the Father working (Jn 5:19).

●How can we see God working when we cannot see God?

1. Two main works of God in all that He does
 - a. Spiritual l_____ (only God can convict of sin to the point of bringing a person to trust Christ – Rom 3:11; Jn 6:44). But God always uses an instrument to do this work (Rom 10:13-15).
 - b. Spiritual g_____ (God causes the growth – Eph 4:16. But God will not by pass a human instrument – Eph 4:11,12; I Pet 4:10)
2. When a crisis happens to a believer in Christ, God wants to grow that person in that crisis:
 - a. Teach them a spiritual truth – He uses a t_____
 - b. Counsel them through issues – He uses an e_____
 - c. Victory in Spiritual battles – He uses p_____ warriors
 - d. Physical needs may arise – He uses s_____, g_____.
 - e. If all the above happened, would this person grow spiritually?

Conclusion:

When you see people searching for God or struggling in their walk with God, that is your invitation to join Him by making yourself useful to Him. The ultimate results will always be something that only God can do - either spiritual l_____ or spiritual g_____.