Would God Dare Interrupt Your Plans For Your Life?

We've probably all had the irritating experience of someone interrupting us in a conversation with someone else, or something that happened that interrupted your plans or focus of what you were working on.

When it happens, we have various responses [attitudes]:

- Just let it go and pretend it didn't just happen.
- Keep talking through the interruption.
- Try to clarify and continue.

Did you know there are times when the Lord steps into our plans and interrupts what we think is important, or pressing, or must be done urgently to get our attention to interject His plans?

The word <u>INTERRUPTION</u> comes from the Latin prefix "inter"- meaning "between/among," and the Latin root "rupt, "meaning "burst."

So, an interruption can be thought of as "something that bursts into the middle of something that is ongoing."

His Word does say: <u>Prov. 19:21</u> "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

<u>Prov. 16:1-3</u> "The plans of the heart belong to man, but the tongue's answer is from the Lord. All a man's ways are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the motives. Commit whatever you do to the Lord and your plans will succeed. The Lord works everything out for His own purpose- even the wicked for the day of disaster."

Prov. 16:9 "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

1. <u>Divine Interruptions can be His Opportunities For You:</u>

• God's Timing:

God's plans are greater and more detailed than our own, and He may use interruptions to bring us into alignment with His perfect timing.

<u>Isa. 55:8-9</u> "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways." It is a declaration of THE LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

• Shifting Focus:

Interruptions can redirect our attention from our own plans and onto God's purpose, leading to personal growth and a deeper relationship with Him.

• Revealing His Will:

God can use interruptions to reveal His specific will for a situation or to guide us towards a different path that aligns with His greater plan.

• Examples:

- Noah's Ark: If Noah had rejected the idea of building the ark, he would have missed God's plan. Gen. 6-9
- Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch: Philip's journey was interrupted, leading him to share the gospel with the eunuch. Acts 8:26-40
- <u>Jesus's Ministry</u>: Jesus often interrupted His schedule to minister to those in need, demonstrating that people in need were not distractions, but the very work God had sent Him to do.
- Paul had intentions of persecuting Christians and killing them, but GOD interrupted him Acts 9:1-19

2. <u>Surrendering to God's Interruptions</u>:

• **Humility and Flexibility:**

Recognizing that God's ways are higher than our own requires humility and flexibility to embrace His interruptions.

• Trusting His Purpose:

We should trust that God's interruptions are not random but are part of a larger plan designed for our good and His glory.

Prov. 3:6-8 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body and refreshment to your bones."

• Seeking Guidance:

We can seek God's guidance through prayer and discernment to understand the purpose behind interruptions.

3. Examples of "Divine Interruptions"

• <u>Unexpected Delays</u>: Traffic jams, unexpected phone calls, or canceled appointments can be opportunities to show compassion, reflect God's love, or prioritize others.

• <u>Life-Altering Events</u>:

Significant life changes: job loss, illness, loss of a friendship or spouse or unexpected opportunities, can be divine interruptions that redirect us towards God's purpose.

• God's Voice:

God can interrupt our plans through His Word, through the promptings of the Holy Spirit, dreams, prophetic words or through circumstances that lead us to a new understanding of His will.

By **embracing** interruptions as opportunities, we can have the chance to align ourselves with God's plan and experience the fullness of His purpose in our lives. **Embracing** God's interruptions allows us to grow closer to Him, to discover our true calling, and make a more meaningful impact on the world.

When God interrupts us,

- He often wants to break us away from ourselves and reveal something greater about Himself or His plans for our lives.
- He is endeavoring to bring us to a new level of maturity and anointing.
- A plan that often involves drawing us closer to Him and rooting us deeper in His Truth.
- A plan that involves looking to Him, trusting Him more and taking a step in obedience.

God interrupted Joseph's plans he had been given through dreams which led him into challenging times but eventually led to his rise to power in Egypt and the preservation of his family & a large part of the known world during a famine.

<u>Interruption for David</u>. God interrupted David's life as a shepherd, anointing him through the prophet Samuel to become the future king of Israel.

• We don't have exact number of years David's life was interrupted by King Saul because the Biblical dates just aren't there to verify it, but it is suggested that David fled from Sauls attempts to kill him for 8-15 years.

Isaiah 43:19 "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" A "divine interruption" is God's way of showing us that He is getting ready to do something that is out of our hands, taking us to a new level of trust and relationship with Him.

This can be an opportunity for us to embrace a divine assignment.

<u>Psalm 33:11</u> "The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart from generation to generation."

"The Lord foils the purpose of the nations, He thwarts the plans of the peoples. The plan of *ADONAI* stands forever, the purposes of His heart from generation to generation. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people He chose for His own inheritance. The Lord looks down from heaven, He observes all humanity. From His dwelling place He gazes on all the inhabitants of the earth—He who fashions the hearts of all, who discerns all their deeds.

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, waiting for His love, to deliver their souls from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the LORD - He is our help and our shield.

Our heart rejoices in Him, because we trusted in His holy Name.

Let Your lovingkindness, the Lord, be upon us, as we have waited for You."

If life is not working out for you, perhaps you are out of alignment with God's plans for your life!!

What do you NOW?

<u>Decide TODAY</u>, that instead of trusting the plans of your heart, which the Prophet Jeremiah describes your heart: <u>Jer. 17:9</u> "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?"

That you stop trusting in what your head is saying that leads you in the wrong direction and begin to do what <u>Prov. 3:5-6</u> advises: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. **In All Your Ways** acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

• Trusting in the infinite, all wise ways of the Lord who wants to share with you His Kingdom.

<u>Phil. 4:6-7</u> "Do not be anxious about **ANYTHING**, but in **EVERYTHING** by **prayer** and **supplication** with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Surrendering your plans to Jesus means:

Psa. 37:4-5

- "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.
- Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act."

When you delight yourself in the Lord and commit your way to Him, He will align your plans with His purpose and GREATER accomplishments will be yours for His Glory.