

SEE IT

Isaiah 41:4 "I am the only God and I keep under control everything that happens in this world. I have existed from the beginning, and will exist until the end."

OBEY IT

I was very engaged with an article that I was writing. Words were flowing, thoughts were coming. I was "in the zone". Then it happened. My son came into the room and asked me if we could play some basketball. Interruption! Most of us see interruptions as negative occurrences that come to disturb our carefully crafted calendar, but it need not be so. Here are three principles to make interruptions your ally:

1. They may seem like interruptions to you, but they were on God's calendar.

We define interruptions as "an encounter or event that was not planned." If we look at the life of Jesus as an example, we can see his reaction to interruptions. Jesus blessed children, resurrected the dead, healed the sick, all outside of the programmed schedule for that day. That interruption you are experiencing might be God's chance to perform a miracle.

2. Submit your calendar to God, which involves surrendering control of yours.

Someone said that if you want to make God smile tell him your final/definite plans. Submit your calendar to God. You're not in the driver's seat, and Jesus is not your co-pilot. Expect interruptions to come into your life today.

3. Instead of thinking how the interruption affects you, think about how it helps others.

God is calling you to pause for a moment today, and instead of seeing the interruption like a stone in your shoe, think about how your help will be a blessing to the person who does not even have shoes. We don't use people to achieve our dreams, we help others discover theirs and help them to become reality. Remember that **"Often our plans fail that God's plans for us may succeed."** *Help in Daily Living*, p. 6

SHARE IT

1. Call someone you haven't talked to in a while.
2. Give someone a flower ...or a dozen.
3. Offer someone else your spot on the bus/train/line.

My Prayer Today:

God, direct my calendar today. Take over my schedule and help me take advantage of those "God appointments" Make interruptions my ally today. Amen.

My Thoughts _____

SEE IT

Mark 10: 28 Then Peter began to speak up. "We've given up everything to follow you," he said. ²⁹"Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that everyone who has given up **house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property**, for my sake and for the Good News, ³⁰will receive now in return a **hundred times** as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property—along with persecution. And in the world to come that person will have eternal life. ³¹But many who are the greatest now will be least important then, and those who seem least important now will be the greatest then."

OBEY IT

One of the questions we ask ourselves as we follow Christ is this: **Is it worth it?** When Jesus calls us to serve others, it involves giving up some things we love. Peter asked Jesus about three things he gave up to follow Jesus:

1. **House-** the security of knowing where you will live.
2. **Family-** the closeness of the people you love.
3. **Property-** the financial security that comes with property.

If you are willing to give up those things, bigger blessings will come, none bigger than eternal life. That is our real motivation. All the other accolades, properties and possessions will be done away when Jesus comes back. Therefore, salvation of ourselves and others is paramount. We don't just serve because we want people to be better off. We serve because we want people to be saved. Remember that:

*"Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme will find perplexities vanish and a plain path before their feet."
Help in Daily Living, p. 13*

SHARE IT

1. Make some baked goods for your neighbor(s).
2. Hug your loved ones for no particular reason.
3. Make breakfast for your spouse or roommate.

My Prayer Today:

Lord, help me look past the temporary inconveniences in this life and remember the eternal consequence of serving you and others. Amen.

My Thoughts _____