

DIVINE INTERRUPTIONS Part 2

On Your Mark. Get Set. Go!

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Acts 8:26–39 ESV

1. DIVINE INTERRUPTIONS REQUIRE DIVINE OBEDIENCE

- God doesn't always give us the whole map; He gives us the next step.
- Sometimes obedience means going before you understand.

2. DIVINE INTERRUPTIONS CROSS BOUNDARIES

vv. 27–28

Psalm 68:31 ESV

- **Evangelism begins when we are willing to cross the distance between “people like us” and “people God has sent us to.”**
- **The Silent Lamb:** The image of a sheep being silent before its shearers represents absolute submission, patience, and a lack of resistance or retaliation during unjust suffering.
- **Justice Denied:** This points to a legal mockery where the subject is deprived of a fair trial and rightfully deserved justice.
- **Life Taken Away:** This directly foretells the premature, violent death of the servant.

The ancient theologian Jerome references Isaiah as the **“Fifth Evangelist of the Fifth Gospel”**

Howard Thurman **“World community begins at home.”**

- **Unity is not uniformity.**

3. DIVINE INTERRUPTIONS REQUIRE US TO LISTEN BEFORE WE SPEAK

vv.. 30–31

- **Effective evangelism doesn't merely speak to people; it listens to people.**

Acts 8:35 notes that Philip **“opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.”**

OUR APPLICATION

When people come into Center of Praise from different backgrounds, don't assume:

- their story
- their wounds
- their expectations
- their theology
- their church experience
- their reason for coming

Ask.

“Tell me your story.”

“What brought you here?”

“What are you believing God for?”

“What has your church experience been?”

“What are you learning about Jesus?”

4. DIVINE INTERRUPTIONS TURN QUESTIONS INTO GOSPEL OPPORTUNITIES

- Evangelism is not simply telling people what we know; it is showing people how their questions lead them to Jesus.

5. DIVINE INTERRUPTIONS PRODUCE BELONGING

vv. 36-39

- The Gospel doesn't erase our differences; it redeems our differences for the glory of God.

“WHAT IF THE INTERRUPTION IS THE ASSIGNMENT?”