



It's Different Week 5

June 28, 2026

LAST WEEK: GOD'S TIMING IS NOT OURS...HIS WAY IS NOT OUR WAY!

My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9 (MSG)

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THINGS GO WRONG?

YOU'RE ONLY AS HAPPY AS YOUR LEAST HAPPY CHILD

WHERE DO YOU TURN IN TOUGH TIMES?

WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THIS AS CHRISTIANS IN 2026?

1. KNOW GOD IS NOT SURPRISED

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:16-17

1. REMEMBER YOU ARE HIS PLAN FOR THE WORLD

This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out. "And that's not all. You will have complete and free access to God's kingdom, keys to open any and every door: no more barriers between heaven and earth, earth and heaven. Matthew 16:18-19 (MSG)

YOUR LIFE SHOULD RAISE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOUR WORDS SUPPLY ANSWERS
IAN SIMKINS, THE BRIDGE CHURCH

Be wise in the way you act with those who are not believers. Use your time in the best way you can. When you talk, you should always be kind and wise. Then you will be able to answer everyone in the way you should. Colossians 4:5-6 (ERV)

WE DRAW PEOPLE TO CHRIST NOT BY LOUDLY DISCREDITING WHAT THEY BELIEVE, BY TELLING THEM HOW WRONG THEY ARE AND HOW RIGHT WE ARE, BUT BY SHOWING THEM A LIGHT THAT IS SO LOVELY THAT THEY WANT WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS TO KNOW THE SOURCE OF IT." MADELINE L'ENGLE

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:13-1

“IN RABBINIC LITERATURE, ‘SALT’ IS OFTEN USED TO REFER TO ‘WISDOM.’ IN FACT, SOME SCHOLARS ASSERT THAT THE LANGUAGE JESUS USES HERE IMPLIES SOMETHING THAT IS “NOT DULL OR FLAT BUT IS INTERESTING AND WELL-CHOSEN.” IT’S NOT ABOUT BEING WITTY, BUT THE FLAVOR OF OUR CONVERSATIONS. FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SHOULD BE THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHOSE WORDS BRING LIFE. OUR CONVERSATIONS SHOULD MAKE PEOPLE CURIOUS. THEY SHOULD REFLECT BOTH TRUTH AND GRACE, CONVICTION AND KINDNESS.” IAN SIMKINS

You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. 2
Corinthians 3:2

1. DO GOOD

HOW DID A GROUP OF A FEW DOZEN POOR BACKWOODS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHANGE THE ROMAN EMPIRE? BY SERVING

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45 (NIV)

“THE KINGDOM OFTEN ADVANCES THROUGH ORDINARY CONVERSATIONS WITH ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO ARE PAYING ATTENTION TO THE SPIRIT. YOU DON’T NEED A MICROPHONE, A PLATFORM, OR ALL THE ANSWERS TO EVERY OBSCURE OBJECTION. YOU SIMPLY NEED TO BE PRESENT, ATTENTIVE, AND WILLING. MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY MOMENT AND EVERY ENCOUNTER. SOMEONE’S EXPERIENCE OF JESUS MAY BE SHAPED BY THE WAY YOU SPEAK TODAY.” IAN SIMKINS

GOD NEVER WASTES YOUR PAIN

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. Psalm 56:8

SOME OF YOU NEED FRIENDS TODAY TO PICK YOU UP. A LOT MORE OF US NEED TO BE LOOKING AROUND FOR PEOPLE WE CAN PICKUP.

Some men took a man who was not able to move his body to Jesus. He was carried on a bed. They looked for a way to take the man into the house where Jesus was. But they could not find a way to take him in because of so many people. They made a hole in the roof over where Jesus stood. Then they let the bed with the sick man on it down before Jesus. When

Jesus saw their faith, He said to the man, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." Luke 5:18-20
(NLV)

FINAL THOUGHT: "THE FIRST ACT OF LOVE IS ALWAYS THE GIVING OF
ATTENTION." DALLAS WILLARD