

Crossroads of Life
Part 1: "Stop at the crossroads"
Mark 1:35-19
Pastor Brian Uyeda
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***The Question we will look at these next 7 weeks:
How do we shine with God's light in a world overshadowed by darkness?***

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says:

"Stop at the crossroads and look around.

Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it.

Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.

But you reply, 'No, that's not the road we want!' – Jeremiah 6:16 NLT

Today's Question: How can I slow down enough to hear God's voice in a world that never stops talking?

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons. – Mark 1:35-39 ESV

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. – Mark 1:35 ESV

1) I choose to prioritize time _____ with God.

⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. – James 4:8 NLT

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! – 1 Chronicles 16:11 ESV

¹⁶ But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer. – Luke 5:16 ESV

Live it out!

Q: In the busyness that drains you, how might seeking God's presence continually fill you with the strength you've been missing?

³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." – Mark 1:37 ESV

2) I must _____ to be ruled by the pressures and expectations of others.

¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. - Galatians 1:10 ESV

¹⁵ When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself. – John 6:15 ESV

¹¹ I trust in God, so why should I be afraid?
What can mere mortals do to me? - Psalm 56:11 NLT

Live it out!

Q: What expectation from others can you let go of today, trusting God to guide your next step instead?

³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons. – Mark 1:39 ESV

3) I will _____ on what God has said.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. – James 1:22 ESV

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. – John 14:15

¹¹¹ Your laws are my treasure: they are my heart's delight.

¹¹² I am determined to keep your decrees to the very end. Psalm 119:111-112 NLT

Live it out!

Q: Instead of just hearing God's truth, what bold action can you take to live it out, trusting it will lead to lasting change and treasure in your life?