

One at a Time - Part 4

Intersections

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Big Idea: Jesus met people at the intersection of their life's moments, forever changing the direction of their lives.

Our actions have the capability of impacting the lives of others.

1. Identify the Intersection

We have to use discernment and prayer when identifying an intersection.

12 Arise, LORD! Lift up your hand, O God.

Do not forget the helpless.

13 Why does the wicked man revile God?

Why does he say to himself,

"He won't call me to account"?

14 But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted;

you consider their grief and take it in hand.

The victims commit themselves to you;

you are the helper of the fatherless.

15 Break the arm of the wicked man;

*call the evildoer to account for his wickedness
that would not otherwise be found out.*

*16 The LORD is King for ever and ever;
the nations will perish from his land.*

*17 You, LORD, hear the desire of the afflicted;
you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,*

*18 defending the fatherless and the oppressed,
so that mere earthly mortals
will never again strike terror.*

—Psalm 10:12-18 (NIV)

In Psalm 10:12-18, the psalmist identifies and then prays for those who are:

- Helpless (v.12)
- Troubled (v.14)
- Grieving (v.14)
- Victims (v.14)
- Fatherless (v.14,18)
- Oppressed (v.18)

When an intersection is correctly identified, advice may fall on listening ears.

But when an intersection is incorrectly identified, then that advice may fall on deaf ears.

2. Rely on God's Spirit

*Don't worry how you'll respond, and don't worry what
you should say. The Holy Spirit will give you the words to
say at the moment when you need them.*

—Luke 12:11-12 (NIV)

*There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all
come from the same Spirit. There are different ways to
serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things.
Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in
everything we do. The Spirit has given each of us a
special way of serving others.*

—1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (CEV)

14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' 26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant!...'"

—Matthew 25:14-26 (ESV)

It's a sin of omission when we don't do something that God has equipped or taught us to do.

Are you going to use your gifts when there is an opportunity to help someone at an intersection in their life?

At Gateway, we serve together, building relationships, meeting needs and sharing the love of Jesus in our church, our neighborhoods and our world.

With the gifts given to you, you may be able to help others discover the hope, peace, joy, and love of Jesus.

3. Follow Through & Love like Jesus

Simple, ordinary actions can produce extraordinary spiritual results.

34 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

37 “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

40 “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

—Matthew 25:34-40 (NIV)

We need to prayerfully identify the intersection, rely on God’s Spirit, and then follow through and love like Jesus.

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Next Week: Extra-Mile Mentality

- [Join a group!](#)
- Find the book online: *One At A Time: The Unexpected Way God Wants to Use You to Change the World*, by Kyle Idleman ([Amazon](#), [Mardel](#), [Barnes & Noble](#))