

Discussion Questions



Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. **Divine interruptions are biblical and normal** - Throughout Scripture, God regularly interrupted people's lives (Abraham, Moses, David, Mary, Paul, etc.)
2. **The church in Antioch was in a posture of worship and fasting** when the Holy Spirit interrupted with a mission
3. **They released their best leaders** (Barnabas and Saul) for God's greater purposes, despite their own needs
4. **Three responses to divine interruption:**
 - Be ready to change
 - Include people (spiritual discernment in community)
 - Grow in patience and openness

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Text

1. What stands out to you most about the five leaders mentioned in Acts 13:1? How does their diverse background challenge our ideas about who God uses?
2. The church was "worshiping and fasting" when the Holy Spirit spoke. What does this tell us about creating space for God's voice in our lives?
3. The word "sent them off" actually means "released them from their duties." How does this change your understanding of the story?

Personal Reflection

4. On a scale of 1-10, how open are you to divine interruptions? What factors influence your score?
5. The sermon mentioned that we often schedule our days "almost to the minute" to avoid interruptions. How does your current schedule allow (or not allow) for God to interrupt?
6. Pastor Ike said, "God's main disguise is interruptions." Can you think of a time when God may have been trying to interrupt you, but you missed it because you were too busy?
7. What "best resources" in your life might God be asking you to release for His purposes? (This could be time, money, talents, relationships, or plans)

Application and Action

8. The sermon challenged us to develop a "theology of interruption." What practical steps can you take this week to become more open to God's interruptions?
 - Consider: prayer practices, schedule adjustments, attitude shifts
9. How can we as a small group practice the three responses to divine interruption?
 - **Be ready to change:** What changes might God be calling our group toward?
 - **Include people:** How can we help each other discern God's voice?
 - **Grow in patience and openness:** What practices can we adopt together?
10. The Antioch church included others in their discernment process. Who in your life helps you discern God's voice? If no one, who could you invite into that role?

Practical Applications

This Week:

- **Create space:** Schedule at least 15 minutes each day for prayer and listening to God without an agenda
- **Practice openness:** When interrupted this week, pause and ask, "God, are you in this?"
- **Fast from control:** Choose one day to hold your plans loosely, remaining open to divine redirection

This Month:

- **Accountability partner:** Share with one person in the group something you sense God might be interrupting in your life
- **Worship and fasting:** Consider setting aside time as a group (or individually) to worship and fast, asking God for direction
- **Release something:** Identify one "best resource" you've been holding tightly and prayerfully consider how God might want to use it

Ongoing:

- **Check your theology:** Regularly examine whether your beliefs about God allow for His interruptions or keep Him in a "neat and tidy" box
- **Community discernment:** Make it a habit to process potential divine interruptions with trusted believers

Closing Reflection

Read this quote from the sermon together:

"We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Reflection question: What would your life look like if you truly believed God's interruptions were His way of working?