

5. How does keeping in mind the fact that God has a bigger, better, and broader plan help you when God doesn't come through quickly enough or in the way you hoped he would?

6. In the sermon, Pastor Henry says, "It's okay to bring our concerns to Jesus, but one of the things that Jesus is showing us in this passage is that when we come with our concerns, we need to allow him to reshape our concerns and priorities. You may come to Jesus with questions, but Jesus may say, 'Those are not even the right questions.' You may come to Jesus with a problem, but Jesus might say, 'That's not your real problem.'" Give some examples of how this works with prayers about money concerns, work concerns, and family concerns?

7. What do you need to do in order to be more tuned in to the Spirit's work in and through your life?

8. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

SERIES: Journey to Easter

SERMON 2: "Ministry in the Interruptions"

TEXT: Luke 8:40-56

DATE: February 20/21, 2016

Ministry in the Interruptions

1. You can't _____ God.

John 11:46

They want a healing, but Jesus has a _____ plan.

Why isn't Jesus feeling rushed?

- He can do something that's _____ than a healing.
- His concerns are _____.
...to _____ to wholeness.

...to _____ faith.

If you have put your faith in Jesus, you have already been promised _____ by Jesus himself. Will you apply faith while you wait?

Right there, in the very thing you most _____, is an opportunity to grow stronger in faith. (Luke 8:50)

When we come to God with our concerns, we need to allow him to _____ our concerns and priorities.

2. The _____ work is not dependent on us.

Luke 4: ¹ And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. So he is tempted for forty days.

Luke 4: ¹⁴ And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country.

Luke 4: ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because HE has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

HE has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The ministry of Jesus is _____ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1: ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses.

Acts 4: ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Acts 10: ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word.

Acts 13: ² While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

The Holy Spirit who propelled and empowered Jesus in his ministry is the same Holy Spirit who propels and empowers his _____ in ministry.

- The Holy Spirit is still creating _____.
- The Holy Spirit is _____ for us the words we don't know how to pray.

3. Beware of your _____.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Matthew 13:31-33

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. How do you usually respond to interruptions to your routines?

3. Read Luke 8:40-56. The sermon focused on some lessons we learn from this miracle story that we might not have learned if not for the interruption created when the woman is healed. Are there any other lessons you see at work in this story that were not brought up in the sermon?

4. Our prayers are often focused on God fixing something. In what ways are God's plans often bigger, better, and broader than ours?