

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 788

June 19 2024

“Am I Interruptible?”

I recently was challenged by a friend who was giving the Sandhills Classical Christian School commencement speech to examine by life and attitude toward others. Of course, the speech was being given to the Class of 2024 and geared toward the graduates but his words have had a profound impact on many who were in the audience that night.

The speaker’s first comment that caught my attention was, “If we as Christians desire to imitate our own postures after Jesus, I would argue one of the most life-giving attributes of our LORD is being interruptible.” Interruptible... a life-giving attribute? Now that is an attribute that I have never really thought about or spent much time pondering. As I began to spend some time researching and thinking about this concept, I have found that the scriptures have quite a bit to say about Jesus and how His life on earth was filled with constant interruptions.

Now, those of you who know me understand how I “like” to operate with any task I handle, lesson I am to prepare for, in fact, how I basically run my day! I am the ultimate list maker of all times! If allowed to, I would plan my day minute by minute, knowing exactly what I need to accomplish for the day. Of course, you all know that days never work the way we have them planned. It is funny that I even do this because my job at SCCS is one of the MOST unstructured positions that there could ever be! I have my handy list of tasks to accomplish for the day but being the one who answers phone calls, handles the entry of folks through the front AND back doors of the building, answers questions for the staff, students, and administration of the 6th – 12th grades, communicates directly with parents, etc., you get the picture. Very little of my list is completed during the school day.

When we look at Jesus’ life and ministry, who we as Christians are supposed to imitate, we notice that there are so many times that He is interrupted during His ministry. In Matthew 5-7, Jesus spends an enormous amount of time preaching and teaching the crowds of people (Sermon on the Mount) and as he is coming down from the mountain He and the disciples are being followed. Jesus has to be physically and spiritually exhausted, tired, weary, thirsty, and hungry, when a leper approaches Jesus asking to be healed. What is Jesus’ response? He does not appear to be frustrated, irritated, short-answered but filled with compassion and

willing to heal this man (Matthew 8:1-4). Throughout chapters 8 and 9 of Matthew, we read about miracle after miracle that Jesus performs, usually while He is on His way to another location. Jump to Matthew 14. Jesus has just learned that His cousin, John the Baptist, has been killed and He wants to go away by Himself to grieve. Does He get the chance to do so? No!! He sees the people following Him and out of compassion chooses to go ashore and heal the sick. This is the same time that He feeds the 5000 with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish.

As I read through these accounts and others that are in scripture, I found myself thinking, “Who am I to think that it is okay to get frustrated, irritable, grumpy, and flustered with those who interrupt me during the day?” Boy, these thoughts have caused me to try to rethink my response to every interaction that I have with others. Christian, we are to model our life after the One who gave His all for each of us. I am so grateful that Jesus shows His compassion, mercy, and grace to each of us because we certainly do not deserve it.

The next time that I am asked, “What did you do today?” Instead of sighing and responding that I got nothing done. I will try to remember the mom who needed to ask advise about a parenting situation, the student who got hurt in the Ga-Ga ball pit and needed help getting cleaned up and bandaged, and the staff member who needed help getting grades to populate correctly in the computer. My answer hopefully will be, “I helped several people today with problems that they had.” My prayer will be that because of my help, they experience a small glimpse of heaven and a taste of the life-giving love of Christ.

Peace and Grace in all that you do, my friends,

Terry Duffell - HOPE Church Raleigh

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 19

Wednesday Night Study
& Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 20

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 22

Women of HOPE @ 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 23

Worship Team Run Through
@ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 11:00 a.m.
Sunday school for all ages
@ 11:15 a.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - June 23
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - June 23
Bill Joyner

Soundboard - June 23
Benjamin Pierce

Live Streaming - June 23
Diane Williams

Communion - June
Donna Williams

Greeter - June 23
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - June 23
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

Matthew 20:1 - 16

“All About God’s Grace!”

Outreach Ministries

“Food of the Month”
for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Canned Vegetables

We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

TLC Devotion

4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.
5124 Departure Dr # 101, Raleigh

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, June 22
CANCELLED FOR THIS
SATURDAY

Wednesday Night Ministries

Summer schedule on Wednesday nights

Study & Prayer

Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Time @ 8:45 p.m.

Is prayer a passion for you?

HOPE Church Raleigh
has a new ministry.
The **Sunday Prayer Ministry**
If you would like to participate,
please contact Diane Mack
beautybycaris@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Janice
Worthington, Jamie Baldwin, Ron Clifton,
Donna Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy
Herriman’s Sister & Brother-in-law),
Loretta (Sandi Underwood’s daughter),
Joan Summers, Shelley, Diane Mack’s
Sister-in-law, Jordan & Cinnamon (son
and daughter of Lynn Joyner’s family
members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere
(Lynn Joyner’s brothers), Gene & Becky
Hale, Ellie Tappan, Dave & Dot Geil,
Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra
Pierce’s dad and stepmom), our Military,
our Missionaries, our Nation, and the
world.

If you have those you would like added to
our prayer concerns, please email me

HOPE - REBOOT NOW

**Everyday Prayer
For
The Vision Team
The Session
The Congregation**

**Retirement Celebration for
Pastor Marty & Family
Sunday, June 30th Following
Worship
Lunch Provided
Please RSVP to
Elizabeth Floyd at:
elizabeth@hopechurchraleigh.org
no later than Tuesday,
June 25th if you plan to attend.**

Quote of the Week

“Cry for grace from God
to see God’s purpose
in every trial.”

Charles Spurgeon

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919-508-6827

Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type “HOPE Church Raleigh”
in the search box)

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Jun	23	Acts	26
Jun	24	Acts	27
Jun	25	Acts	28
Jun	26	Rom	1
Jun	27	Rom	2
Jun	28	Rom	3
Jun	29	Rom	4