

Based on this week's sermon...

SCRIPTURE

Write down the scripture verse(s) that caught your attention.

OBSERVATION

What do you think God is saying to you in this scripture?

APPLICATION

Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now.

PRAYER

Write out your prayer based on what God has said to you today.

This Week's Life Journal Readings

Sunday, Apr 11

I Sam. 11,12
I Chr. 1
2 Cor. 11

Monday, Apr 12

I Sam. 13
I Chr. 2,3
2 Cor. 12

Tuesday, Apr 13

I Sam. 14
I Chr. 4
2 Cor. 13

Wednesday, Apr 14

I Sam. 15,16
I Chr. 5
Mt. 1

Thursday, Apr 15

I Sam. 17
Ps. 9
Mt. 2

Friday, Apr 16

I Sam. 18
I Chr. 6
Ps. 11
Mt. 3

Saturday, Apr 17

I Sam. 19
I Chr. 7
Ps. 59
Mt. 4

Sunday, Apr 18

I Sam. 20,21
Ps. 34
Mt. 5



Transformers

SUNDAY, APR 10/11, 2010

SPEAKER: DOUG RHIND

Scripture: Acts 11:19-30

Disruptions often _____ our ability to clearly
_____ God's _____ in our lives.

Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. {Acts 11:19 NIV}

Genesis 40:14-15; Matthew 1:18-19

Disruptions offer _____ opportunities for
experiencing authentic _____.

When he (Barnabas) arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. {Acts 11:23 NIV}

Psalms 51:10-12; Acts 11:25-26; Matthew 18:21

CLG Notes

Refer back to your notes from Sunday as you work through this CLG material.



Disruptions tend to challenge our sense of composure and control. When our lives are thrown into chaos by disruptions we have a tendency to come apart. We feel like our control in life has been undermined. It is in times like this that our connection to God in prayer, through Scripture, as well as that of our faith community helps provide us with a compass through the chaos.

Disruptions _____ our _____ to drift towards _____.

...Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. ...the disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea. {Acts 11:28–29 NIV}

Acts 11:26; 1 Corinthians 12:13, 26; 1 Peter 4:10

What does God provide for us during seasons of disruption? What can we look to him for? What do the members of our faith community provide us with in chaotic seasons?

Digging Deeper: Both Paul (Eph. 4:12-16) and James (James 1:2-7) use the analogy of wind and waves to describe the power of disruptions. What do both writers remind us to seek God for as a source of help?



Can a person or group of people grow and thrive in seasons of disruption? Absolutely! Israel's journey during, and out of exile is one example. The early church's journey during the first three centuries of persecution is another. God longs to develop composure in us during seasons of crisis, chaos, and disruption.

How does relinquishing our preoccupation with trying to control our circumstances, outcomes, and destiny form or shape us within? How do we go about relinquishing these things into God's care?

Can God develop composure, trust, and dependency upon him apart from going through disruptive seasons of life?

Digging Deeper: Paul considered disruptions in all forms to be 'weakness-inducing' realities he had to face continually. Based upon his unique perspective, how did he view this weakness-inducing potential of disruption? (2 Corin. 11:23-30; 12:6-10).



The scattering of the Greek Jewish Christians (Acts 8:1-7; 11:19-21) due to the persecution they underwent had created a unique opportunity for them to communicate the Good News about Jesus. Disruption dislodged them from the comfort zone of their faith communities and social networks and forced them into the unfamiliar. In spite of this they were able to thrive missionally.

How does our God-given identity and status as God's people according to 1 Peter 2:9-12, inform the way we ought to behave in times of turmoil and upheaval?

Digging Deeper: Please read Jeremiah 29:1-14; what did God's promise to do for the Jewish exiles as they were uprooted from their homeland?