

4 Ways to Understand God's Sovereign Interruptions

1. They are not really interruptions but divine intervention aligning you with His original plan.

- a. God wants to use you.
- b. God wants you to be part of the Grand Plan.

2. God's interruptions are redemptive in nature.

- a. God's interruptions are usually happening because there is someone He is trying to bring into His Kingdom.
- b. Sometimes it is you.
- c. When God interrupts ask "Who are you trying to reach."

3. God's interruptions are often painful.

- a. When God interrupts you He's going to use you. And God often has to work on us to prepare us to serve.
- b. God's purpose is to bring unbelievers to Him for the Glory of His Name. He sometimes allows us suffer for the purpose of allowing our response to suffering getting their attention.

4. God's interruptions are worth it.

How do I know an interruption is from God? If it is happening, God is allowing it.

How do I respond?

Luke 1:38

38"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Application:

1. Think of the greatest comfort you can experience right now in the midst of an interruption because of the sovereignty of God.
2. Take some time to look up and read the passages in these notes.

THE REAL GOD DISCIPLESHIP CAMPAIGN

WEEK THREE: THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

Introduction: We like the thought that God is all-powerful, He is in complete control, and He has a plan. We like it until we realize He has every right to interrupt our lives and our plans to accomplish His. How should we recognize and respond to the sovereignty of God in our lives?

The importance of our study:

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

- A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

The Sovereignty of God...The Suitcase Example

Your goal should not be to fully understand God's Sovereignty today, but simply to get a handle on how to view your life through that filter.

You will be unpacking the truths of God's Sovereignty your entire life.

A Working Definition of the Sovereignty of God

Nothing that happens occurs without God's knowledge and permission. God is in control.



Isaiah 46:10 *I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'*

Daniel 4:35 *"All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; and no one can ward off His hand Or say to Him, 'What have You done?'*

Matthew 10:29-31 *Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

James 4:13-16 *Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.*

**God's Goodness and Sovereignty go hand in hand.
We do not want one without the other.**

We don't have a problem with God being Sovereign.

We have a problem when God's sovereignty interrupts our plans and our lives.

When the Sovereignty of God Interrupts My Life

Luke 1:26-37

26 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, **27** to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. **28** The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. **30** But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. **36** Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. **37** For no word from God will ever fail."

God reserves the right to interrupt your life at will in order to fulfill His sovereign, predetermined will.

- **When God interrupts it feels like He doesn't care.**
- **In truth it is proof we are "highly favored".**