

## **Divine Interruptions**

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic  
By: Sis. Techie Rodriguez, Elder-Founder  
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The world is now in a bleak situation because of the Coronavirus. Due to this virus, we are now on lockdown. Though we miss going out and being with other people and places, it is better that we stay at home for it is more horrifying outside because we can get contaminated.

According to the Apostle Paul, everything is going to work out for the good of those who love Him (Rom. 8:28). With this in mind, he saw the best in every situation. We should share his outlook especially now.

God gave us almost a month of lockdown. Suddenly, all of us were interrupted from our daily affairs in life. We used to hurry for we were so busy with our own affairs.

The best thing to do now is to stop and then look at these intrusions not as interruptions but a divine appointment. So, this is an opportunity that God is giving us.

### **So, what do we do?**

#### 1. Let us begin to talk to God in prayers.

- When we were busy, we used to say that we have no time to pray. We were so pressured by the many affairs in our lives and, therefore, we always ask God for forgiveness for not praying and for not being able to make time for Him because of our business.
- This is the time to spend time with God longer than five minutes and learn to intercede for others.
- While we are on lockdown, we can hear Holy Mass on television and talk to God about our experiences, pains, and burdens. Know that God is interested in everything about us.
- This is also the time to study God's Word and meditate on it day and night. Our busy schedules before might have not allowed us

to even read the Bible, much more study it. Maybe during this lockdown we can finish reading the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and even memorize some verses while we are on it.

#### 2. Listen to God.

- All the words that go out from God's mouth will not return to Him unfulfilled (Is. 55:11). Thus, His Word is superior to anyone else's words and we should listen to Him.
- We feel frustrated when people ignore our advice. Imagine how God feels when we ignore His Word. We must listen to Him and reflect on what He is saying.

#### 3. Let us praise God.

- Despite the Coronavirus outbreak, it is appropriate to pour out our unbridled praises on God.
- When He performs miracles and answers our prayers, it is easy for us to praise Him. Too often, we wait for God to perform a big answer to our prayers before we feel like singing praises to Him.
- Reflection: God does not owe us any miracles or favors because He does not need to do anything to prove His greatness. He is great.
- Therefore, instead of fretting, complaining, and wondering when the lockdown would end, it is a beautiful thing to worship God early in the morning. It is time to rejoice for we know that God is in control.
- In Acts 16:25-26, despite being imprisoned for preaching God's Word to the people, Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns to God. Then, there was a severe earthquake and in that instance they were immediately delivered by God.
- For everything about this virus to be over, all of us should praise God for He is mighty. Let us not focus on the newspapers and watch television because the news is really bad and frustrating. Instead, praise God because He is in control. Praise Him for He will provide all our needs.
- Remember we are children of God and He will come through for us again and again

for He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

- Amidst this outbreak, let us be still and know that He is God (Ps. 46:10). Let us acknowledge that someone sovereign is in total control. Let us praise Him for He inhabits in the praises of His people.

#### 4. Look back and recall what God has done.

- The ancient Israelites found it hard to trust God because, though they heard His promises, they continued to refuse to believe Him. Instead of looking back and recalling that He could be trusted, their trust was blocked by fear of tomorrow.
- We have the same problem today. Sometimes our fear is for the future and sometimes that fear is not even going to happen. Yet, filled with dread, we still wait for whatever it is we imagine is going to happen to us.
- Though we do not know what the future holds, the most important thing is that we are prepared for whatever God is planning to do and that we would be calm because God is in charge.
- Today, this pandemic looks huge. We have to look back and reassure ourselves by recalling what God has already done on our behalf. Remember all the things that the Lord has done for you. Bear them all in mind and trust Him for He never abandoned us.

#### 5. Fear not.

- Do not be afraid for the Lord promised us that no harm will overtake us and no disaster will come near our tent (Ps. 91:10).
- We do not know what will happen tomorrow (Jas. 4:14) so we must not be afraid. We do not even know if we will still be living tomorrow so why fear?

#### 6. Heed the warnings.

- 1 Cor. 10:6-11 described a spiritual disaster we can avoid.
- Let us repent and confess our sins.
- Then, let us pray for the whole world for if we pray, humble ourselves, and turn away from our wicked ways, then He will pardon our sins and heal our land (2 Chr. 7:14).

#### 7. Walk by Faith (2 Cor. 5:7).

- Though we should practice caution such as handwashing, social distancing, and taking steps to strengthen our immune system, we should not focus on our situation.
- Our troubles can be God's opportunity to making something out of us. Now that the world is in the midst of a very fiery situation, let us remember Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in Dan. 3. There is grace when the heart is under fire.
- In this fiery situation, God is with us, walking with us, and He will never leave us alone. We may not see our Shepherd, but He is here, even in the darkest situation. He will save us again. Believe in Him.

This respite from our daily activities allows us to focus our thoughts on the majesty of our God. An inner calm allows us to listen to Him more intensely. If we do not have peace, we would not understand Him for we will hear many voices. Therefore, let us turn away from our daily schedules and focus on his plan for all of us. This is the time to just rest in the arms of Jesus and experience His peace and love.

**Transcriber/Writer:** Sis. Jennifer G. Ilagan  
**Editor:** Sis. Rhia G. Ilagan