



One of the common problems of life we face here in Cebu is TRAFFIC. Everyone of us is affected by it whether we like it or not. The moment we live the gates of our homes we have to go through this problem before we reach the comforts of our work. There may be a lot of reasons why there is traffic almost every day. ONE of them is Human Factor. Our decisions to violate traffic rules and signs are one thing that makes our life miserable. We tend to disregard the rules or order that is in place to prevent traffic. The sad part is we tend to point fingers of who is responsible. *Don't you know that our life can be compared to that of traffic?*

God sets the Natural Order of Life for us to experience God's goodness even in the middle of a very bad traffic in life. We can see God's natural order in His creation. There is an order in God's creation and it is embedded in the fabric of our human DNA because we are part of His creation. We need to respect God's natural order of life or we will miss the purpose of why we exist in the first place.

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (NIV)

The order of creation is; God created Time (1st); Space (2nd); & Matter (3rd). Our God is the God of ORDER. He manifests himself through His creation. *Any deviation from God's order of life will have an outcome that hinders our walk with God.* When we talk about ORDER; a plan is involved. There is priority of things involve. IF there is a priority; there is a sequence that must be followed. These things are inescapable in life. It's part of God's design in order for us to understand His plan and His divine character; that is LOVE!

Life is complicated. Failure is fact. We failed either for wrong reasons or bad decisions. We lost what is important or what is the right thing to do.

We suffer either because of our faith or because of our sinful choices. The normal reaction is to complain and point fingers at someone else. We face this almost every day in our life. DON'T you know that God is not only interested in your prayers? He is not only interested in your faith? He is not only interested in your MINISTRY? Most of ALL, God is interested in you as a PERSON. *Your life matters to God most importantly.*

Life is a broad subject; but we need to learn three important aspects of LIFE for us to pay attention to:

God is interested with your Time!

Ecclesiastes 3:1

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: (NIV)

The Book of Ecclesiastes is a wisdom literature. It is written by King Solomon; the wisest King of Israel ever existed. His wisdom is God given. He wants us how to be wise in this wicked world that we live in. The verse tells us that whatever we plan or desire in life we need to act on it NOW as we speak. Time is crucial and it will not move back. Time will leave you where you are IF you don't act decisively NOW. The verse also tells us that time will never be the same. Opportunities knock only once so we need to go with the tide of TIME.

Ecclesiastes 12:1

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them"— Solomon is telling his readers that whatever secular plans we have; we should consider God first.

The word "REMEMBER" suggests the best time to obey God. We may not be as young right now but to prioritize God NOW in every aspect of our life is what King Solomon is exhorting God's people to do. The present matters to God because obedience can only be realized today, NOT tomorrow. Regrets are a fact of life. It always comes as an outcome rather than in the beginning.

God is interested with your economic conditions in Life.

Ecclesiastes 8:15

So I commend the enjoyment of life, because nothing is better for a man under the sun than to eat and drink and be glad. Then joy will accompany him in his work all the days of the life God has given him under the sun.

God wants you to enjoy your earthly life in connection with your hard labor. The harvest of what you sow must be enjoyed now; NOT later. If you for example you tithe out of your love for God; God will reward you with an earthly blessing for you to enjoy his reward. Giving is God's way of blessing in as much as your hard work must give you a favorable return.

Anything we receive comes from God. Every good gift that we actually receive regardless of whether it is our salary; promotion or business profit; God doesn't want us to be cruel to ourselves. Remember that our body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit. It is to be taken care of both spiritually and practically in our life. To attain financial stability means to have knowledge about financial literacy. God gave us everything for our enjoyment (1 Timothy 6:17). He gave us the freedom to be good stewards of His money. In this case discipline and planning on our part is needed in order for us to experience the natural enjoyment of life God has set before us. So if this is the case; our part is to know God's Word; understand it; and apply it. Application of what we believe is called WISDOM! Do you have time to meditate upon the Word of God? Be serious with your life because Christ redeemed you by His blood!

God is interested in his relationship with You.

Two important insights that is present in a relationship. First is SERVICE. The second one is FELLOWSHIP.

John 15:16 John 15:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

John Chapter 15 talks about the Vine and its branches. In the Old Testament the word "vine" refers to Israel; the covenant people of God. Israel is rebellious. They always detached themselves from the law of God. Jesus is a Jew from the tribe of Judah. Jesus is Israel's hope and Savior because He is the Son of God; fully obedient to the will of God. Verse 16 tells us that Jesus is the vine where Israel (branches) needs to be dependent upon the Vine to live and succeed (bear fruit).

We the church is the body of Christ. In order for the Church to live; to thrive and to be sanctified (bear fruit); we need Christ to overcome the wickedness in LIFE. This is a standing order of Jesus to His disciples and to the church. *To bear fruit is to be a Disciple and vice versa! To OBEY means to be fruitful!* This is the ONLY way to grow in your FAITH!



Discussion Questions

- 1. What occupies most of your time nowadays?
- 2. How do you feel about spending enjoyment in life?
- 3. How was your relationship with Jesus today?