

The Season of Formation

Romans 8:29 Mirror Translation

“For those He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the exact image of His Son.”

March 15, 2026

Sermon Title – When the Spirit Interrupts your Normal

Sermon Text – Romans 8:28 Mirror Translation

“Every detail in our lives – is continually woven together – to fit into God’s perfect plan of bringing good to us...”

Introduction

As we begin – I want to ask you a question ... Have you already fallen back into your auto-pilot routines? ... I only ask to prove a point – we are such creatures of habit ... We find those comfortable routines and we settle right back into them ... Now don’t get me wrong – there isn’t anything wrong with routine – unless you guard and fight to hold onto them.

See – routines may be a reality of this natural realm – but when it comes to living from a kingdom perspective – they can become extremely dangerous – because they slowly shut down the transformation process ... Because the Spirit understands this – He will step in and create disruptions in your life ... You know the moments I’m talking about – those things that came out of left field – or the things that seem to blindsides you ... You’re simply going through your day as normal – then suddenly something happens – and your first thought is – “Where did that come from?”

We have been conditioned to believe – that moments like these are just random events ... But what if that assumption is wrong? ... What if it is actually the Spirit of God stepping into your day? ... We need to remind ourselves that spiritual moments are happening all the time – just like natural events are happening all the time ... And when a spiritual moment occurs – are you

discerning it? ... Are you aware that it may be Him seeking to get your attention? ...

Understand – there is no living on auto-pilot in the Spirit – because everything in the Kingdom is purposeful and intentional.

As we now begin our journey up the mountain – so to speak – I need to remind you of some basic principles ... First – this is not a journey of gathering new information for the purpose of indoctrination ... This is a journey of experiences and transformation for the purpose of formation ... He is the Potter – we are the clay ... We are His workmanship – being created into His image ... This means the Spirit is constantly and consistently working in our lives – desiring to complete His work in us.

What we will discover – as we saw with Saul – is that this formation process – often involves what I am calling - - “Collisions” – or we can look at it as “life’s disruptions” ... This is where the Spirit interrupts the normal flow of life – so that we will stop long enough to pay attention to Him and His work in us ... **Let me drop this little nugget here** ... We are under the misconception that our natural life is just as important to God as it is to us ... Don’t misunderstand what I’m saying – but it isn’t ... The spirit realm is far greater – far higher – far more significant – than we can imagine ... And sometimes these disruptions are designed to reframe our thinking – and refocus our attention – so we remember who we really are – spirit beings living out a temporary human existence.

So, as we begin this journey together – let’s talk about what collision actually looks like from a kingdom perspective.

When the Spirit Steps into Your Daily Routine

Jeremiah 18:4 Mirror

“Like clay in the hand of the potter, - the vessel that he was making was marred, - so he reworked it into another vessel - as seemed good to him.”

Catch this – from a Kingdom perspective – collisions are not just random occurrences ... They are not simply moments where we say – “Well life happens to everyone and I guess it’s my turn” ... Now I know this is hard to swallow at this stage of our journey ... But let me remind you of something Scripture says.

Proverbs 16:9 Mirror

“A person may plan his own journey – but the Lord directs the steps that lead there.”

Life has a way of forming routines and patterns that we naturally gravitate toward ... We make our plans – we set our course – at least that is what we like to believe ... But are we really the ones shaping those patterns? ... We will explore that question more deeply – later in our journey ... For now, we need to recognize this truth – human beings are highly programmable ... We naturally fall into patterns of thinking and living that feel comfortable and familiar ... Those patterns are shaped through culture – heritage – education – experiences – and the environment around us ... Knowing this – I have a thought-provoking question ... Are we truly planning our own journey – or are we simply living from patterns – that have been programmed into us over time?

Now catch this – the Spirit is always forming and shaping us into the image of Christ – that is His mission ... But when we drift into our unconscious auto-pilot mode – He will introduce an interruption to shake us out of that pattern ... Like a potter working clay – the Spirit is constantly shaping and reworking what He is forming ... When the clay becomes difficult to work with – the potter does not discard the clay ... He simply continues working it – forming and shaping it into what it was meant to become.

Collisions are often those moments when the clay is not cooperating and the Spirit begins pressing more firmly on the clay ... The purposeful disruption is designed to get our attention – so that we will stop – refocus – and look inward ... It reminds us that He is always working to conform us into the image of Christ.

But this exposes an important tension ... Because not every disruption in life comes from the Spirit ... Some disruptions are something else entirely ... And if we are going to walk this journey honestly – we must learn to discern the difference.

Not Every Disruption Is a Kingdom Collision

Galatians 6:7 Mirror

“Whatever a person sows into their life will eventually become their harvest.”

Here is where honesty becomes important ... Not every disruption is the Spirit forming the clay ... Sometimes disruption in life is simply the natural result of the seeds we have planted ... If a person exceeds the speed limit and gets pulled over – that is not a Kingdom collision – but rather a consequence of cause and effect.

If someone ignores their health for years and eventually their body begins to manifest sickness – that is not the Spirit interrupting their life ... That is simply the result of an unhealthy lifestyle manifesting in their life.

If someone makes reckless financial decisions and life becomes unstable – that may not be a divine disruption ... That may simply be the result of unhealthy money management and poor stewardship.

In order to properly walk out this journey – we must be able to discern the difference between a divine disruption and the consequence of improper behavior ... I have run into many people who blame the consequences of their own behavior on God – or on the devil ... It is truly sad that we live in a day where personal responsibility is no longer personal – it is always the other guy’s fault ... Let me remind you of:

Proverbs 19:3 – New Living Translation

“People ruin their lives by their own foolishness – and then are angry at the Lord.”

Discernment is important as we take this journey ... Self-imposed consequences – created through our own foolishness – will keep us trapped in a perpetual cycle of functioning as mere human beings ... Confusion can arise because the Spirit will also seek to break us out of these cycles through His own disruptions ... At times it may even feel like life is piling on ... So, honesty is key ... Keep foolishness far from you – because that will greatly help in the discernment process ... This leads us to our last point this morning.

The Spirit's Methodology - Collision

Ephesians 2:10 Mirror

“We are God’s masterpiece – His poetry – created in Christ Jesus – to live the life that He designed for us – from the beginning.”

The Spirit of God is not reacting randomly in our lives ... He is purposeful in His intent of shaping – forming – and transforming ... And many times – in order to get our attention and focus – He introduces a disruption into our lives.

For those who are not yet awakened to this reality – I know that statement can feel disturbing ... Your mind immediately begins racing ... And it is disturbing for two main reasons ... **First** – Many people struggle to believe that God would allow something they perceive as bad – to happen in their lives ... For example – we all know what Job went through ... We will dig deeper into this principle later on our journey ... But for now – let me simply say this – we often misunderstand how the Kingdom realm actually functions ... We tend to imagine it functioning just like this world – only adding a few angels and some spiritual music playing in the background ... But Scripture gives us a deeper picture ... Just for another reference point – look at 2 Corinthians 12:7–10 ... Paul had a thorn in the flesh ... Natural thinking says – remove it ... Kingdom thinking says – “My grace is sufficient.”

Second – God is more interested in your formation – than He is in your comfort ... In Acts 16:22–34 we find Paul and Silas beaten and thrown into prison ... Yet instead of crying out in

despair – they begin praising God ... And what happens? ... The prison begins to shake and supernatural manifestations break out.

Spiritual Nugget

Romans 8:28 reminds us that every detail of our lives – can be woven together for good – when we awaken to the truth that the Spirit is always forming us ... That means even disruption can become part of the formation process – as long as it is not simply a self-imposed consequence ... When you truly grasp that God only has good things for you ... When you fully understand – He know better than you – and His ways are better than your ways ... Only then will you not be caught off guard by disruptions ... Instead, you will recognize the methodology of the Spirit – and begin praising Him as the master craftsman of your life.

Takeaway

So let me ask you something ... When life suddenly interrupts your plans ... When something happens that you didn't see coming ... When the normal flow of life is disrupted ... How do you respond? ... Do you immediately try to escape the moment? ... Do you jump into “fix-it” mode? ... Does your mind begin racing to find an answer?

How about this week – when something outside the norm happens ... You stop ... Take a breath and pause ... Focus inwardly and ask ... “Spirit, are You trying to get my attention?” ... Then be still ... Listen and refocus – and allow Him to awaken you.

Closing Prayer

Father – may we become constantly aware of the work of Your Spirit within us ... Give us clarity and wisdom to discern the difference between the disruptions we create through our own consequences – and the moments where Your Spirit is shaping our lives ... Teach us to pause when life is interrupted – and listen for what You may be speaking ... Awaken our hearts to the Kingdom life that is already present within us ... In the mighty name of Jesus – Amen.