



THE WAYS

JUMP IN. Life is full of unexpected problems and needs, large and small. Pay attention to moments when God calls you to action, no matter how ordinary or extraordinary the situation may be. See “disruptions” as invitations to share Christ’s love. Write a note. Visit the sick or the grieving. Share a meal.

1. What kinds of problems and needs do people commonly have around you?

READ Luke 10:25-37

1. What do you think the Priest was on his way to do?
2. If you were the Samaritan, at what point would you feel like you had done enough?
3. What disruptions do you think this would have caused to the Samaritan’s life?

Scenario: When you are on your way into the grocery store, there is a man outside in a beat up coat and a sign asking for food. You were just planning to stop in quickly for some food for dinner so you can get your kids fed before one goes to soccer practice and the other goes to play practice. On your way in, you just want to walk past and get your shopping done.

1. What makes you scared to help?
2. Similar to the Good Samaritan, how much help should you offer before you feel like you have done enough?
3. If you were the man sitting outside the store, what would you want?
4. How do you balance the responsibility for your family and this man’s need?

Saying yes to something or someone’s need always involves saying no to something else. None of us have a plethora of free time or resources. Caring for people takes time, energy, and sometimes money. *Jump In* and care anyway. It was a disruption when a woman with a bleeding problem touched Jesus’s robe and an interruption when a paraplegic man was lowered through the roof, Jesus helped anyway. This is the Lord we follow when we, as a community, *Jump In*.

PRAY TOGETHER.

(Pray that the Spirit help you see the opportunities to serve those in need around you.)

DAILY Devotional

MONDAY: *READ:* Micah 6:8. *THINK:* Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly. If only living it were as simple as saying it. As we become a community that *Jumps In*, we declare God's justice and mercy for those in need. When we do good for others, it's easy for pride to slip in. These works though, rest on God's work in us. *PRAY:* that you can serve in humility before God's majesty.

TUESDAY: *READ:* James 2:14-17. *THINK:* The outpouring of faith is action. We have been forgiven and cared for by God over and over again. When you take that to heart, it changes you. Faith in a God who loves you produces a desire to love those around you. *Jump In* and show the care you have received. *PRAY:* that the Spirit would grow actions out of your faith.

WEDNESDAY: *READ:* Heb. 13:2. *THINK:* In truth, angels are the least we can hope for. Whatever we do for those in need, we also do for Jesus. Each time we have an opportunity to *Jump In*, we could be caring for angels and we are definitely caring for Christ. What a marvelous interruption it would be to be able to feed, clothe, or listen to Jesus. *PRAY:* to see how God is present in those in need.

THURSDAY: *READ:* Matt. 9:36. *THINK:* Faith isn't just about obedience but about compassion. There is a reason we avoid eye contact with those in need. When you make a connection, it is hard not to care. Don't hide from compassion; it can be the voice of the Spirit. As God works in your heart, you will feel towards needy as God does - with compassion. *PRAY:* the Spirit would grow compassion in you.

FRIDAY: *READ:* Acts 2:45. *THINK:* Part of the beauty of the Church is the ability to care for one another. The first century Church set a radical example of care for one another, selling their own homes and sharing the proceeds. You might not be called to sell your house, but it illustrates well that helping always costs something. When we choose to *Jump In* and meet the needs around us, the cost is far outweighed by the reward. *PRAY:* with God about what you have and how he can use it.

SATURDAY: *READ:* Eph 2:10. *THINK:* You are made by God with good works to do. People you pass may have a need that God has made you to meet. You are always blessed to be a blessing. When you *Jump In*, you fulfil the purpose God made you for. It can be a moment to join with God in his plan for the world. *PRAY:* the Spirit would show you the works He has prepared for you.