

Sunday 16th November – Lifegroup notes – Beyond yourself

Welcome

Do you have a favourite chair, sofa or spot in your home for settling in and getting comfortable? What makes it so comfy?

Word

Sometimes we are in such a hurry that even God himself couldn't interrupt us, let alone those that God puts in our path. We tend to live hurried lives. John Ortberg lists several symptoms of being in a hurry. Which of these can you identify with ...

- Do you feel like there's never enough time to accomplish everything in your day?
- Do you eat your meals fast?
- Do you sometimes hurry other's people's speech by saying "uh-huh" or completing their sentences for them?
- Do you class yourself as a good multi-tasker? Can you give an example.
- Do you sometimes push the lift button even after it's lit up to say it's been called?

Think about the way Jesus went about his ministry on earth. He was busy, but not hurried. Dallas Willard, a brilliant author and thinker, said "You cannot love in a hurry." Discuss the implications of this statement.

Remember the leper in Mark 1:40-42 and how Jesus dealt with him ...

- How approachable are we to the world around us?
- How can we become more approachable to those Jesus wants to encounter?

Re-read John 9:1-11. God's presence and power breaks through into the world through interruptions in our lives. The more we are in a hurry, the more we miss who God is trying to show us.

- How likely is it that God would be able to interrupt you? On a scale of 0-10, where are you on your Interrupt-ability?
- What stops you allowing God to break into your agenda sometimes?

Works

Ask God to bring to mind someone he wants you to notice this week, or become more approachable to. Spend some time praying for each other for opportunities for God to interrupt your life so He can encounter that person. Share who that person is, if it's appropriate.

Keep considering who you can invite to the Christmas event on 14th December.