I want to preach on the topic finding God in the mundane

It is often when I am doing our laundry or cooking dinner or sweeping and mopping the floors and washing the dishes that my mind finds time to calm down. Life is so fast paced, and we are moving from one thing to the next, constantly trying to be prepared for what is coming next that I don’t always find time to calm my mind down.

That’s why I turn to the mundane. I turn to the chores in my life to help me calm down. I can finally get my focus off work and stress and anxiety and just do my chores. And its often when my mind is no longer racing that I am able let my mind wander and focus on other things. And I can really soak in my surroundings and appreciate life a little more. However, too often our society tells us to overlook the mundane in favor of the instagrammable moments.

Then reality hits me, and I am scrubbing another dish, folding another shirt, and gathering mismatched socks. How do we find the Lord in the mundane? How do we find joy in the ordinary?

Mother Teresa once said, Wash the plate, not because it’s dirty, nor because you’re told to wash it, but because you love the person who’ll use it next.

This quote struck me. It transforms the way I view my daily chores. Is my mind flooded by complaints and frustrations as I do ordinary tasks? Or do I put love into my actions by praying for the person who will use the next dish or wear the clothes I just folded? I am challenged to shift my perspective and appreciate the ordinary moments of life..

I have discovered that we can meet the Lord in the midst of monotony: during that tenth load of laundry, driving carpool, finishing another project, or cleaning the hundredth mess that day. First John 1:16 says, “Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.” The Lord lives within us when we are caring for those around us moment-by-moment. We are becoming more like Him as we carry out our daily, monotonous tasks.

Now you may be wondering why is he talking about monotonous tasks, does he have a church cleaning day ahead for us to be a part is. No I don’t, but that would be nice. Why I am talking about monotonous tasks is because so often we can breeze through so many opportunities that are afforded us to interact with God, grow in our faith, and be prepared for something greater because they are found in the mundane moments of life.

So often we are living for the instagrammable, snap chat, social media worthy post moments. We miss that God is right there in the every day moments. God is not just there when I am on top of the mountains, walking along the beach, camping in outdoors, God is with me when I do the mundane, routine tasks of my life.

Lets look at the life of David to fully understand what I am getting at. I want you to understand that David is being called to be king and in his life so far he has no necessary point of reference for it. He doesn’t fully realize how to function in a palace. . he knows how to function in a forest, he knows how to function in a field. He knows how to function when the odds are against him. But he doesn’t necessarily know how to function in the field of his dreams, in the area of his destiny. Davids journey as far as we can tell began at around 15 years old. Samuel anoints him to be a king and anointed him with oil from the top of his head to the souls of his feet.

Samuel tries to anoint the other brothers with oil but it doesn’t flow because they were not the chosen one, the oil doesn’t flow until David is under it. And that tells me the holy Spirit is intelligent. The Spirit knows who you are and where you are. And that you don’t have to fight and play politics and play games to get ahead. What God has for you is for you. It wont work for anyone else.

So we have David anointed to be king, but David had to go back out into the field. You have a guy with a kings anointing and a part time job. You got a guy with a kings potential, and hes working fast food. No offense to fast food workers. You have a guy destined for greatness and he is throwing garbage cans and David has to have the elasticity of mind to be able to deal with obscurity and the paradoxical dilemma because you just said I was king but daddy said you better go out there care for the sheep and shovel the dung.

Can you imagine David walking away and what he would be mumbling underneath his breath. So he is confused, am I what I see in front of me or am I want I am standing in right now. He is 15 years old and hes anointed to be king and in spite of that nothing changes. There will be seven years of graduating conflicts until he takes the throne. And its funny that the bible in all of its details only gives us the moments where things happens, it doesn’t write about the moments of nothingness. And until you learn how to function through the mundane and uincertainty, until you can believe that Gods favor is upon you even if you are doing things you don’t feel are significant or important and hold onto what God said is still true you will miss out on what God is doing in your life in those non instagrammable moments.

What we miss is that the oil is a head of Davids reality and hes having to grow into who he really is. And that is hard because you can grow frustrated because you can see your destiny and feel it and your head is still slick and yet you are shoveling the dung and God has put you in a period of absolute nothingness to grow you into what God has next for you. And in that process of growing David has to accomplish certain things, overcome certain obstacles, and deal with a period of the mundane. Until you can deal with the mundane and do the menial as if it were mighty and dignify your now before you get to your next it makes a big difference on what God is able to do in your life. You have to be mighty in the mundane.

Just think if you were David he is like what do these sheep have to do with me being a king. What I am doing now does not feel like it has anything to do with where I am going. And yet the sheep have everything to do with being King. And so often we are focused on what the end could be that we miss out on the now. And we never reach what God has for us because we have not found him in the mundane. The mundane is part of the process and when we get through the mundane God can get us to the next phase the moving.

The next time we meet David we learn that he has fought lions and bears, and the interesting thing is he is not hunting them. He is fighting the lion and the bear because they have snatched up a sheep. And god is developing in him the instinct to be a leader. The instinct to fight off obstacles. The instinct to be a protector. So you see David its not as mundane as you thought it was. Those private battles are taking you somewhere and getting you ready for what God is going to do in your life. Gods developing Davids character.

The Bible says the steps of the righteous are ordered by the Lord and he delights in his way. Everything we have ever been through, and learned nothing will be wasted. Everything we have done right, and every time we have messed up, its all working together for our good.

So David goes from the mundane to the movement, to the moment. And he didn’t even know that the moment was the moment because it does not announce itself. He woke up to carry lunch to his brothers. There was no announcement that said today your life will change and Samuel will anoint you. He got up because he has learned to be faithful with mundane tasks. He didn’t say I am to good or to great to carry the lunch, he brings it down and seemingly by happenstance he steps into the moment.

One moment can change a whole life, and yet without the mundane we can miss the moment. He could have went off and not did his duty that day and Samuel would have come and gone. Here is the moment camouflaged in the mundane and it erupts forth out of the mundane.

To show you how god has been preparing him we go to Goliath, and David sees this towering man ad can put this in context for fighting for the lamb. Only this time the lamb is the nation of Israel and the bear is the Philistines and he must win the battle without harming his people and now he realizes that everything in life has been a rehearsal for this moment. Its been seven years since the anointing and here with this victory will launch David to new heights and adoration by the people, catapulting him to become king. All of his experiences during the mundane times, got him ready for the moment.

I don’t know what God is preparing you for because it doesn’t matter our age, God is always preparing us for something. I would be remiss if we made it through this whole pandemic and waited for that instagrammable herd immunity moment, and we missed out on the work God was doing in our lives during the pandemic. Brothers and Sisters, we cannot forget the mundane, for the mundane is what God uses to prepare us for greatness.