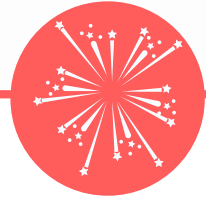


“STAY OR WALK AWAY”

SERIES

“JESUS STAYED”

WEEK 3



SPARKS

- When was a moment you chose ease or comfort over doing what you knew was best? How did it feel afterward?
- Have you ever had to interact with someone challenging or a situation you wanted to avoid? How did you handle it?
- When has staying in a tough situation led to a positive outcome for someone else?



WORD

““But he said, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.”

Luke 4:43

(Read also Luke 4:1-42 for context)

In week one, Learning From Jesus, we explored how Jesus models wisdom and discernment. Last week,

Jesus Walked Away, showed us that walking away can be an act of obedience. This week, Jesus Stayed, turns to John 4:1–42, where Jesus remains with a woman others avoided.

Jesus stayed to fulfill His mission to glorify the Father, preach the good news, and bring life and salvation, as seen in Gospel of Luke 4:18–19 and 4:43. Following Jesus requires discernment. Sometimes obedience means walking away. Other times, it means staying.

1. OBEDIENCE OVER CONVENIENCE

John 4:4

'4 Now he had to go through Samaria.

Jesus' journey to Samaria reminds us that obedience to God's purpose is more important than comfort or ease. Following Him may lead us into situations that are inconvenient or uncomfortable, but His mission always takes priority over our personal preferences.

Where in your life might God be calling you to choose obedience over comfort?

1

2. ENGAGING EVEN WHEN DIFFICULT

John 4:7-9

***"7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?"** 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)"*

2

Sometimes we cannot walk away from difficult or toxic situations, and at times we may even need something from them. Jesus models engagement by meeting the woman at the well, entering a place others avoided. When we step into challenging situations with discernment, God can work through us for His purpose.

What challenging situation might God be inviting you to engage with rather than avoid?

3. PURPOSE DRIVES PRESENCE.

John 4:10

*“10 Jesus answered her, ‘**If you knew the gift of God and who it is** that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.’”*

Because Jesus knew His identity, purpose, and mission, He did not avoid Samaria; He stayed to fulfill what He was sent to do. When we are secure in our purpose in Christ, we can face difficult or toxic environments without being consumed, bringing life, hope, and transformation to others. How does knowing your purpose in Christ help you stay present in difficult situations?

3

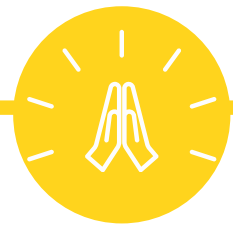
LIVE IT!

- Know your purpose and identity in Christ.
- Take time to listen and truly understand others, even when it's uncomfortable.
- Look beyond the surface to recognize God's work and potential in people and situations.
- Share the gospel and point others to Christ.



PRAYER

- Pray for courage to follow God's purpose, even when it is inconvenient or uncomfortable.
- Confess any impatience or frustration that prevents you from engaging with grace.
- Pray that your presence would bring hope, transformation, and point others to Christ.



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SERIES