

Close Encounters

Mary & Joseph: God's Timing

Luke 2:42-51

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Intro: The conflict between God's *timing* and our *timing*

I. Jesus on a family *vacation*

A. They traveled by *caravan*

1. For *safety* and *security*

B. Mom and Dad make an *assumption*

♦ "I thought he was with *you*!!"

C. Jesus reveals His *mission*

1. A disgusted *mom* and a misunderstood *tween*

2. A bigger *agenda*

3. A challenging *choice*

Key Question: Do I move forward in my timing or submit to God's timing by following those in authority in my life?

Principle: When it comes to God's agenda for our lives, timing is *critical*

II. The importance of God's timing in the life of.....

A. *Moses*

D. *Ruth*

B. *Joseph*

E. *David*

C. *Nehemiah*

Principle: Often God will put you in *neutral* to put all the details together to work out His plan

Proverbs 16:9 ~ "In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps."

III. How does God communicate His timing?

A. God uses *circumstances*

B. God uses people in *authority* over us

C. God uses the *counsel* of others

D. God uses personal *moments* with Him

Principle: When in doubt.....*wait* on God

Psalms 32:8 ~ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you."

Psalms 27:14 ~ "Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD."