

THE UNFORCED RHYTHMS OF GOD

December 11, 2016 John 7:1-10 by Bob Branch
Believing Into Life, Part 21

BIG IDEA: God is always on time, never rushed and never late, and we can move in sync with him and his timing in our lives.

The Feast of Tabernacles/Booths commemorates Israel's wilderness wanderings after God delivered them from slavery in Egypt.

¹ After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him. ² But when the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near, ³ Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. ⁴ No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵ For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

Difference between unbelief and doubt?

1. You can see Jesus do all kinds of wonderful things and still **NOT BELIEVE**.

⁶ Therefore Jesus told them, "My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil. ⁸ You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come." ⁹ After he had said this, he stayed in Galilee.

2. God and his **TIMING** always have the big picture in mind. That's why we are frequently not in sync with him.

3. Jesus' presence has a **REVEALING AFFECT** on people. Many will shy away from him because they know that what they are doing in sin, is wrong.

¹⁰ However, after his brothers had left for the festival, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.

4. Jesus moves at his own pace, in **HIS OWN RHYTHMS**—never rushed, always on schedule.

HOW TO RESPOND?

Slow down. Resync with God.

Agree with God and his larger picture.

Establish trust. Lean into him.

Jesus loves you and is reaching out to you today. He wants you to open the door to your heart and invite Him in. Here's a prayer to help you make this connection with Him.

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins. I now invite You to come into my heart. I trust you and want to follow You as Lord and Savior. In Your name. Amen.

If you prayed this prayer for the first time today, would you please let us know by filling out a Lifeline card and dropping it in the Offering Box? Thanks so much.