



mundane and messy

It can be really easy to see the Lord at work on a mission trip; in fact, many people choose to go on a trip for that very reason. On Royal Servants you were surrounded by like-minded brothers and sisters in Christ who all had the same purpose, goal, and vision for the summer - to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and make disciples of all nations. And you may have witnessed the Lord working in powerful ways in the lives of your teammates, the people you shared with overseas, and even your own life.

But now you're back home and into a "normal" (maybe even mundane) routine where you go to school, see the same people, go to youth group, spend time with your family, or even work a part-time job. Being back home can be messy and tough, and you might find yourself facing and dealing with some really hard circumstances. The challenge is this: Can you move from feeling lonely, stressed, or maybe even stuck, to a place where you recognize God's presence with you? I think you can. Let me share a truth: The God you saw at work on Royal Servants is the same God who is with you at home. His work is continual and He is always present, even in the midst of the mundane and the messy.

read

1 Kings 17:1-16

John 4:7-15

reflect & journal

1. In the first part of the passage, God feeds Elijah with ravens who bring him his food. I don't know about you, but for me this totally conjures up the image of a Disney princess cleaning house, getting dressed, or dancing in the forest with her animated animal friends. However, in the very next passage, God uses common, everyday household items like flour and oil. How would you contrast these two stories? Which seems easier to see God's presence in?
2. Do you resonate more with the widow (hesitant) or Elijah (confident)? How so?
3. The well was a common place women visited for their everyday needs. What is the significance that Jesus would meet this woman here, of all places? How did Jesus use this as an opportunity to be present with her?
4. Do you recognize God's presence with you in the simple or mundane things of life? What are those things for you?
5. What circumstances are you facing at home right now that make it hard to recognize the presence of the Lord?

pray

- Pray for the Lord to remind you of His presence while back home.
- Pray for the eyes to recognize His presence in the mundane, messy, and ordinary.