

beautiful interruptions
uninvited distractions

Luke 7:36 - 8:3

welcome...

Instructions:

Welcome to worship. Please know that this is a safe place to enter into conversation with yourself and with God, if you need to do so please feel free enough to take space alone, you can interact with the various stations as much, or as little as you'd like, you don't need to get through them all, so please don't rush... take your time.

We request that you only use the instruction sheets provided that *are the same colour* as this welcome sheet. At the completion of the service you will be allowed to gather the sheets of the alternative colour, but please for the sake of this time together stick to this colour.

At the conclusion of our time in this space the music will cease and we will give some kind of sign in order to gather us together to read together the final blessing that will be provided by the candle at the centre of the space.

Call to worship:

God is here. God's spirit is with us. This is not a performance. This is our worship. This is not a rave or a disco. This is our worship. This is not a special event for young people. This is our worship. We invite each other to use the environment, the visuals, the music, and the words, to stimulate our thoughts and draw our hearts to wonder at the goodness of God. Invite God to meet us as we seek to meet God. This is our worship. God is here. God's spirit is with us..

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kiss...

how embarrassing
what a shameful thing to do
how dare you be so free
so open to being like this
indifferent to what others may say

how dare you
don't you realise that others are here
watching
judging
how can you be so free of care

how dare you
make me long to be so free
show me how much i'm tied up
chained to my own needs
and to those who may judge me

Action: think of something that you've been too embarrassed to do, or that you've been too concerned about what others may think if you took it on. challenge yourself to give whatever it is a try sometime in the next couple of weeks

Pray: for the courage and the inspiration to live out God's call on your life without fear of how others may judge you.

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perfume...

surely you could be doing something more constructive
more useful
more praise-worthy
more missional
more... more godly than this

the way that you waste your resources
waste your time
waste your money
it isn't right, aren't you concerned
about the example that you're setting

why do you get to do things like this
when i have to be thoughtful
frugal
wise and ethical
because we all know that money doesn't grow on trees...

your ministry
your faith
just is way to expensive
it's results are not quantifiable
would you instead be interested in the flower roster

Action: spray some of the perfume onto your wrist

Prayer: pray for those who's ministries aren't quantifiable. pray for people who's ministries confuse or don't make sense to you.

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tears...

bloody hell
i don't have the time
i don't have the energy for this
why is it always you?
why do you always find me?

can't you see that i'm tired
that your brokenness is just
one more thing
that i can't handle right now
i need space too

sometimes i just need the time
to be with people who don't need me
who aren't in need of my support
of my time
of my life

don't you realise
that your brokenness
reminds me of my own
it makes me uneasy, uncomfortable
and revives in me memories of my own

Action: rip a tear from the paper provided for each time you have found yourself exhausted, disillusioned, empty, broken or torn down.

Pray: for healing, for patience with yourself, for the knowledge that we share our brokenness with a god who has experienced the same brokenness that we all struggle with.

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hair...

wait a minute...
this is MY time
MY space
i'm here to deal with MY needs
MY insecurities, MY mission, MY life

don't you dare take this away from me
i'm loosing it as it is
it's always about someone else
never about me
i need this space to keep me sane

your needs always trumps mine
when you're here it's never about me
why can't you give me just a little space
to recover, re-energise, re-generate
rediscover why i'm here

i need the space
i need the time
i need the silence
please don't take this from me
please god, don't take this from me

Action: take a paint brush and paint some more hair onto this painting, with each stroke, every strand of hair name those issues that you need to work through in your life that are causing you stress or tension... or, maybe you need to be honest with yourself and think of all the times that you've chosen to work through other people's issues rather than deal with your own. sit here, paint, and as you do talk with god and be honest.

Prayer: pray to god that you will find the space and the time to work through your own issues, thank god for his understanding of, and compassion with you.

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blessing...

we are broken people
we have so much baggage
we are sometimes exhausted
we live lives that are sometimes unhealthy
we sometimes embrace the inner cynic too much
we often find ourselves in positions in which we are no longer
healthy, open, without judgement and patient
we find it hard sometimes to hear your voice and be people
open to living out your grace, love and revelation
we are broken people

as we leave here we pray

god
we are broken, please embrace us
when we are exhausted, please give us rest
when we are cynical, let us see hope
when we find it hard to listen, give us a holy silence and speak
to us
when our lives are unhealthy, help us find ways to change the
way we live
when we are without patience, give us peace
when our brokenness seems to drown out your grace, surround
us with the knowledge and with people who will remind us of it.

god, go with us today, tomorrow and forever

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