

# ENCOURAGEMENT FOR *Real Life*

## **117. Why Does Right Now Matter?**

You are listening to episode 117 of the Encouragement for Real Life Podcast titled, "Why Does Right Now Matter?" Welcome to the podcast! I'm thrilled we get to share a few moments together today. The last couple of weeks have been a whirlwind around here with the launch of my first book, *Right Now Matters: Empowering Right-Now Women in a Culture of Distraction*. I'm finding women are learning the value--maybe for the very first time--of right now. In this episode we're pausing to answer this question--why does right now matter? It may be for reasons greater than you can think of now. So I invite you to hang out with me here for this next short while, and together, like we always do, we'll find some help, hope, and a lots of encouragement through this episode. Let's get to it,

Have you ever walked through a near-death experience? I sometimes wonder how many near-death experiences we are close to but never know about. How many times has God protected us from stuff we were never aware of? I imagine it's lots. In Chapter 1 of *Right Now Matters* I share the story of how my husband experienced a near-death accident while riding his bicycle one Saturday morning. Our family considers this one of those experiences, because God could have easily taken Bill home to be with Him that morning, but he spared his life after getting hit by that white car.

The days that followed, it became very clear to me that every moment we get matters. You see, I forgot. The day in and day out routine of life had caused me to be blinded of this truth. I had gotten complacent, as if I was living on autopilot. Not living each day to its fullest, and not appreciating each God-given moment. Until I got the phone call from Bill saying he had been hit by a car and was in the hospital.

### **Why does it take something like that to wake us up to reality?**

But sometimes it just does. From that instance forward, I knew I had to make a change with how I was living my life. I knew God was waking me up to the preciousness of every moment He blessed me with. And I had to choose from that day on how I was going to live my life. As if right now mattered or would I continue to live my life like I was--sleepwalking through life.

What about you, friend? When you think about your life, are you appreciating each moment you're given? Or are you, like I was, living life on autopilot? Do you embrace each moment or are you just going through the motions in your days? It's so easy to sleepwalk through this life, isn't it? But I don't believe God intends for us to live that way. I believe He desires for us to live our lives with a sense of awe and wonder, of love and appreciation, of joy and peace.

In fact, His Word states this as such.

"May their lives be a credit to You, Lord; and *what's more*, may they continue to delight You by doing every good work and growing in the true knowledge that comes from being close to You." Colossians 1:10 Voice

"You should produce much fruit and show that you are my followers, which brings glory to my Father."  
John 15:8 NCV

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV

How we live our lives matters. Each of our days are made up of moments, and those moments add up to seconds, minutes, hours, days. One builds upon the next and before we know it, these moments are our lives.

God didn't give us our lives to sleepwalk through them. He gave us life to glorify Him, as the 1 Corinthians 10:31 passage states.

So, are we glorifying God with our lives? It's a timely question to ask ourselves.

### **Why does right now matter?**

For a number of reasons, but the biggest one I believe is because we are to glorify Him in the right now. In every moment we are given. It's a tall order, isn't it? I know I don't glorify Him in every moment He gives me, but that's my heart's intention. I'm assuming that's yours too. It's important to remember and to keep in our focus, because this determines all we do. Including how we live right now.

Yes, right now does matter. Not only because of this (this reason alone is enough), but also because we don't get to live right now ever again, and we may not get to live it again with those we love.

Each moment is a gift from God. Every single breath is a gift from Him. You and I aren't guaranteed another one, right? Right now is where God meets us, and He desires for us to live with Him now. Not in the past and not in the future, but right now. It's the only moment we have, and since God is with us always, it's the only moment we get to commune and converse with Him.

### **Right now matters because God is in it.**

And we don't want to miss what God is doing in our lives right now. We don't want to miss one single thing. Not a breathtaking sunrise or sunset He created, or the kind word He prompted someone to speak to us, or the beautiful gift of seeing a child's smile. Let alone the big things He's doing in our lives. We don't want to miss those either. Like the healing of a sick friend, the heart change in a loved one, or the answering of the prayer you've prayed for years. God is in it all. Right now matters because He matters.

Even in the long moments, the monotonous moments, the boring moments. Even in the ordinary moments, the sad moments, the difficult moments. Each moment matters.

### **Right now matters.**

It's so very important. More important than realize.

The other evening a friend of mine and I were driving home in her car from the book launch party I hosted, and we were following my husband in his vehicle. Stopped at a stop light, it turned green and my husband proceeded to enter the intersection. Since we were behind him, we saw this entire scenario unfold. We saw a car coming from the right side of the intersection, and it wasn't stopping. He had a red light, but was heading straight for my husband who was in the center of the intersection by this time.

I was screaming. My friend was wincing. Time slowed way down and everything was happening in slow motion. I instantly threw up a prayer out loud. "Jesus, protect him!" Bill then slammed on his breaks, and the car barreled through the intersection inches in front of my husband, and kept on going. We both exhaled our held breaths, and I unclenched my hands and jaw.

That right now moment could have changed everything. Yes, that right now moment could have changed our lives. That right now moment could have impacted another family's life--or maybe many other lives. I thank God for how He acted in that right now moment, and I'm grateful it ended the way it did. With all of us arriving home safely and in one piece. But we just never know the importance of right now until we experience how it can all be changed in an instant.

### **Does right now matter?**

You better believe it does. I pray we never take one for granted ever again. Friend, I invite you today to take a look at the importance of right now. What's one thing you can do to live in the right now every single day?

Could you set out a few reminders throughout your day to live in the right now?

Or could you set a timer on your phone to remind you to live in the moment?

Could you take more pauses throughout your day to notice God's many blessings in your life?

Could you live in the right now by telling others what they mean to you?

Or could you appreciate this moment by thanking God for it?

### **There are so many things we can do to live in the right now.**

No matter how we choose to do it, I pray we remember consistently that right now matters.

You can find more on this subject in the book I just wrote titled, Right Now Matters: Empowering Right-Now Women in a Culture of Distraction. It released on October 17, and it's the book I wish I had when I began my quest to live an undistracted life. I pray it blesses you. You can find it at the link in the show notes.

If you found encouragement and hope in this episode, would you please leave a rating and/or review from wherever you're listening today? This helps others find this encouragement too. Subscribe so you never miss a new episode.

Also, we taking this conversation over to our private Encouragement for Real Life Community on Facebook. Come on over there to be encouraged and inspired. The link to this group is also in the show notes.

In closing, why does right now matter? Because God created it. He knows the importance of right now. I pray we recognize the importance of it too. Doing so will absolutely change our lives. Thank you for tuning in today. I'm cheering you on and I'm praying for you. God bless you!

Links in this episode:

[Colossians 1:10 Voice](#)

[John 15:8 NCV](#)

[1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV](#)

[Find Right Now Matters at rightnowmatters.com](http://rightnowmatters.com)  
[Encouragement for Real Life Community](#)

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