

## But God – The Great Intervention

In grammar, "but" changes a sentence's direction.

In Scripture, "But God" signifies a turning point where human limitations meet divine opportunity.

It moves from hopelessness and failure to hope and restoration.

Through our many life challenges we see how God intervenes to transform our stories.

- There are moments in life when we feel we have reached a dead end.
- The world closes in, circumstances overwhelm us.
- We look at our situation and think, "This is it. There is no way out."
- The words "but God" interrupt those moments with hope and power.

*These two words often bridge the gap between human impossibility and divine intervention, reminding us that God is never limited by our limitations.*

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This message is built on key scriptures that demonstrate God's intervention:

Be mindful, God intervenes to transform our stories. Joseph tells his brothers -

Genesis 50:20: You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

- God is in control of all events, even the sinful actions of humanity.
- Nothing happens outside of His sovereign plan.

**\*\*\*When the Situation Seems Hopeless - We all face situations that look bleak.**

Consider the story of Joseph in the Old Testament.

- He was betrayed by his brothers, sold into slavery, and wrongly imprisoned.
- Years of suffering, injustice, and separation from his family defined his life.
- From a human perspective, his future was ruined.
- He had every right to be bitter, angry, and hopeless.

But God! Joseph to his brothers, "You meant *evil* against me, but *God* meant it for good."

- God took their malicious actions and wove them into a plan....
- A Plan that saved Joseph's family and an entire nation from famine.

*Purpose in pain:*

- The suffering and trials we have experienced are not meaningless.
- God can and will weave them into a larger purpose!
- Often to bless others and bring about greater good.
- Joseph's suffering led to the salvation of his family!!!!
- Saved many from famine!!!

When you face a crisis, shift your focus from the permanence of the problem to the possibility of God's intervention.

- Human perspective is limited, BUT GOD sees the entire picture.
- God uses circumstances and people to achieve His Will! BUT GOD!

*The "But God" principle teaches us that our suffering is not the end of the story.*

God can redeem even the darkest circumstances for His purposes.

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Perhaps the most profound "but God" moment happens in our salvation.

**\*\*\*When We Are Spiritually Dead - From Death to Life - Made Alive in Christ**

Ephesians 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins."

- *Before knowing Christ*, the Bible says we were "dead in our trespasses/sins"
- We were separated from God, *unable* to save ourselves.
- We were heading toward eternal separation.
- We were without hope and power to change our ultimate destination.

**But God!!!**

**Ephesians 2:4-5** - 4 **But God**, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved).

- Salvation isn't earned but is **a gift from God who is rich in mercy/Love.**
- He brings spiritually dead people to life **IN Christ by His Grace!**
- **NOT** by human achievement!
- This reveals His immense kindness and power to transform us from sin.
- **A New Life.....**

This speaks to the **radical nature of God's grace.**

- We did **nothing** to deserve it; we were completely helpless.
- God's love and mercy intersected our spiritual bankruptcy...
- It brought us new life.

**BUT GOD** - *Never doubt the depth of God's love and His ability to redeem anyone, regardless of their past.*

- If you have accepted Christ, live in **gratitude** for this profound **intervention.**
- If you haven't, recognize that you cannot save yourself, but God can.

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The world often values strength, intelligence, and social status.

- Many of us look at **our weaknesses....**
- Our perceived foolishness, or our lack of resources....
- We feel **unqualified to be used by God.** But God!!!

**2 Corinthians 12:9-10** - But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. **10** That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- **God's grace is sufficient for us!**
- **His power is perfected in our weakness!**

**We should embrace our frailties because we are truly strong in Christ's might!**

**\*\*\*When We Feel Inadequate - 1 Corinthians 1:27 - But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;**

- **"BUT GOD chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise!**
- **BUT GOD chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong."**

God's grace isn't just enough; it's tailored and abundant for every struggle, providing everything needed to endure!

- **Stop relying on your own strength.**
- **Instead, actively seek God's power!!!**
- **This will deepen our faith and dependance on Him!!!**

God delights in using ordinary people to do extraordinary things so that the glory goes to Him alone.

- **He doesn't call the equipped; He equips the called.**

Stop comparing your weaknesses to others' strengths.

- **Offer your inadequacies to God.**
- **Your perceived weakness might be the very avenue through which –**
- **God chooses to demonstrate His power.**

**CLOSE: BUT GOD!**

**IT IS A CALL TO ACTION, IDENTIFY YOUR CHALLENGE, NAME THE DIFFICULT SITUATION OR CIRCUMSTANCE YOU ARE FACING!**

**DECLARE "BUT GOD" – FACE IT! Acknowledge God's ability to intervene.**

***Expect God's work, anticipating the transformative power that only God can bring.***

- **Life will bring challenges that seem insurmountable.**
- **We will face evil intentions, spiritual death, and personal inadequacy.**

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

In these moments, remember those two powerful words: But God.

- He is the God who intervenes. In ALL THINGS...

*He is the God who redeems the past, transforms the present, and secures our future.*

Whatever you are facing this week, Walking into Your "But God" Season

- When you feel tired, God is your strength.
- When you lack resources, God provides.
- When you feel you've failed, God is your Redeemer.