

It's August and I'm all in!

All in what PJ? Well, I'm all in for what the Lord has for me this month and for this season in my life. What about you?

One of my all-time favorite scriptures comes from the book of Jeremiah. It's here that he scribes the words of our Lord.

“11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” - [Jeremiah 29:11-13](#)

A few things I would like to note:

The Lord has plans for us: That's right, He has plans for us, for our future! He knows in great detail what this season and each season will reflect and when it will be revealed. He alone knows the joys of His plan. I believe He is excited to see it unfold in our life. Finally, the Lord knows what is needed to prepare for His plans for us. He will not release any portion of His plan if we are not prepared or ready for it.

Rolling out His plan too soon would prove disastrous for ourselves and those around us. So many examples of this just flashed through my mind...an untrained kid with a loaded gun, an overly eager teenager with a car, a novice with leadership responsibilities, and a pretentious Pastor who's called to shepherd the flock. Again, should the Lord reveal His plan too soon it would prove disastrous for ourselves and those around us. So before we shout the victory, let's continue reading the rest of the text. Verse twelve states, “Then you will call on me and come and pray to me...” These are very important **action steps**.

Call and Seek: No, I didn't say hide and seek. (Smile) It's call and seek...we are encouraged to call on and seek the Lord! Allow me to make this very clear. The Lord has plans for us; however, the heart of being all in requires action on our part. First, we must call on Him in prayer! Second, we must seek Him in all things and in all areas of our life! I can hear someone saying “PJ, I've been calling and seeking God and...nothing! It's been absolute crickets!!!”

I get it, sometimes it seems as though we have lost connection to Heaven. Allow me to encourage you this morning. Being “all in” means, we have postured ourselves to remain before Him until He reveals, or releases His plans for our lives. This may not be praying for just a week and hoping to get a response. I love how Jesus put it with His disciples as recorded by Matthew:

7 “Keep asking, and it will be given to you. Keep searching, and you will find. Keep knocking, and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who searches finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. - [Matthew 7:7-8](#)

How badly do you want what the Lord has for you? Are you willing to call out to Him and seek Him on a continuous basis? Are you willing to keep cadence with the timeline He has set for you? Are you willing to be sold out to what He wants to do in your life? Are you willing to set aside your plans

and desires for His? I am convinced this makes all the difference. This, family, is what is meant by **being all in**. The Lord promises to respond to our being all in.

He will hear us and He will be found: in our featured text the Lord says, "...I will listen to you...and you will find Me when you seek me with all your heart. The Lord declares when we pray to Him and seek Him **with all our heart** (being all in), He will hear us and He will show up. Now that's good news! No more trying to figure things out on our own. No more mistakes! No more wasted time! No more disappointments or setbacks! No more back to the drawing board! No more frustration! No more delays! No more thinking "this is the perfect plan" only to find it's not! I'll say it again, that's good news! When we are all in with Jesus we receive vision, clarity, direction, provisions, and strength for the journey! Finally, at His appointed time, His wonderful plans for our life are ushered on to the scene.

Challenge: Choose to do it God's way, be all in with Him! He knows the plans for our life: for today, this month, and this year! (Can I get an **AMEN?!)**.

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