

Title: Tick Tock - John 7:1-13

Read:

¹⁻² Later Jesus was going about his business in Galilee. He didn't want to travel in Judea because the Jews there were looking for a chance to kill him. It was near the time of Tabernacles, a feast observed annually by the Jews.³⁻
⁵ His brothers said, "Why don't you leave here and go up to the Feast so your disciples can get a good look at the works you do? No one who intends to be publicly known does everything behind the scenes. If you're serious about what you are doing, come out in the open and show the world." His brothers were pushing him like this because they didn't believe in him either.⁶⁻⁸ Jesus came back at them, "Don't crowd me. This isn't my time. It's your time—it's always your time; you have nothing to lose. The world has nothing against you, but it's up in arms against me. It's against me because I expose the evil behind its pretensions. You go ahead, go up to the Feast. Don't wait for me. I'm not ready. It's not the right time for me."⁹⁻¹¹ He said this and stayed on in Galilee. But later, after his family had gone up to the Feast, he also went. But he kept out of the way, careful not to draw attention to himself. The Jews were already out looking for him, asking around, "Where is that man?"¹²⁻¹³ There was a lot of contentious talk about him circulating through the crowds. Some were saying, "He's a good man." But others said, "Not so. He's selling snake oil." This kind of talk went on in guarded whispers because of the intimidating Jewish leaders.

Think:

Now is the time. Now is the time that I would like Jesus to come back to Earth. How about you? Wouldn't you love Jesus to choose now to come back to Earth? Think about it, all you mates as school would have no choice but to believe in Jesus if he came back now. If Jesus came back now, it would be so easy for us to be Christians. Wouldn't it? Yes, now is the time. Two thousand years on and you and I are just like the disciples, pushing the time for Jesus to show himself, so that our friends and family would have to believe in him. But the bad news is, just like two thousand years ago, Jesus knows better than us. Just like two thousand years ago, Jesus will choose when he reveals himself to your mates at college or school. The real issue for them is that even before Jesus does return, there is plenty of evidence for them to know he exists. Frustrating though it is for us, we have to admit that our creator God knows best and he will choose when he returns. Maybe now is not the time after all.

Pray:

Lord, please forgive my impatience and my desire for you to follow my agenda. Father, please reveal yourself in a clear way to my friends and family, so that they too can celebrate when you choose to return. Amen.

Action:

Now is the time for you to continue being Jesus to your friends and family. Do some random act of kindness today and see what happens. Bye.