



Seasons of a Woman's Life

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SEASON OF SEED PLANTING

- 1. THE CALL**
- 2. THE COMMITMENT**
- 3. CHRISTIAN COMMUNION**

SEASONS OF A WOMAN'S LIFE

LOIS EVANS

The context - 'All things must pass'.

Women are seasonal creatures and when we look at our lives in the season we are in, we are better able to cope with some of the challenges and appreciate the blessings while we still have them.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SEASONS?

Seed planting, Growth and Harvest

Seed planting - *the Lord calls us to himself, we commit ourselves to His service, and we enjoy communion with Him.*

Growth - *lessons in obedience, service and preparation. This involves being tutored in self discipline, sacrifice and serenity.*

Harvest - *stepping into primary responsibilities for which we have been prepared. Contentment but not complacency, saying yes even when it takes us out of our comfort zones and the blessings of fulfilment as we see the plans for our lives being brought to pass.*

It is essential to learn about our seasons because there is a unique plan for each of us, thus submitting to God's unique path will keep us balanced as we navigate through the many choices we have to make.

When we have a personal relationship with God; an ongoing awareness of His presence and a devotion to His word, it will give us stability, confidence and direction as we pursue the various ministries God calls us into during each season of our lives.

Psalm 139, Matthew 5:16 and Jeremiah 29:11

THE SEASON OF SEED PLANTING

1. THE CALL

How did God reach out and draw you to himself?

Describe your unique purpose for which you have been called.

If you have not discovered your purpose, continue to pray that the Lord will make it known to you.

ON YOUR OWN

Readings

Jeremiah 1:5 New Living Translation (NLT)

"I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb.

Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations."

Ephesians 2:10 New Living Translation (NLT)

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Psalms 139:13-16 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹³ *You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb.*

¹⁴ *Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.*

¹⁵ *You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.*

¹⁶ *You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.*

List the common words and phrases found in these verses.

What do these verses tell you about who you are?

Investigate the lives of the following people.

Esther (Esther 1-9)

Ruth (Ruth 1-4)

How did the Lord call them and for what purpose?

Take note of the events and people that God uses to bring them into their purpose.

What did you learn about the methods God uses to engage us in the plan He has for our lives?

DISCUSSION SHARE YOUR SALVATION STORY.

How did God reach out to you to draw you to himself?

Share a time when up you knew God had moved you into a strategic position for His purposes.

Are you avoiding something God is calling you to do? Share what that is and why you are hesitating in moving forward.

THE SEASON OF SEED PLANTING

2. THE COMMITMENT

Commitment which follows our response to His call to salvation, is a commitment to follow him, not only as saviour but as Lord. We commit ourselves to becoming His disciples, we commit ourselves to His purpose, through obedience and he reveals to us our gifts, talents and opportunities. Isaiah 41:10

ON YOUR OWN

Describe a time you felt overwhelmed by a specific commitment. What did you learn about God as you fulfilled your commitment?

Read the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 17-19
What is Elijah called to do?

Describe how Elijah demonstrates his commitment to the Lord

Write down the number of times the phrase 'The word of the Lord came to Elijah' is mentioned. What does the Lord say throughout this story? What is Elijah's response?

Elijah's calling and his commitment puts him in tense and risky situations. How does Elijah handle these situations?

What principles from Elijah's life can apply to your own commitment to the Lord?

DISCUSSION - SHARE A COMMITMENT YOU'VE MADE TO THE LORD

How has it been an easy or challenging commitment to keep?

Sometimes our commitments require us to take risks.

Share a time when you took a risk and the lord saw you through.

THE SEASON OF SEED PLANTING

3. CHRISTIAN COMMUNION

Communion is intimate fellowship and rapport with Jesus Christ. If we want to reap the full benefits of our lives in Christ, we have to know him. We can only know him by spending time in His word, in prayer and in meditation on his word. Communion with God does not happen by chance; it is a decision of the will.

Jeremiah 33:3

ON YOUR OWN

How do you make communion with God a top priority? How are you seeing His mighty hand at work in your life?

Read John 15:1-8

In this illustration how does Jesus describe himself, the father and us?

In agriculture, what is the purpose of a vine?

What is the purpose of the branches?

Have you seen branches or leaves that are not attached to a vine, plant or tree?

Describe how they look.

Are they functioning in the way they were meant to?

Read John 15:1-8 again and verse 11

Why are we instructed to abide in Christ?

What are the benefits of abiding in Christ?

Read Psalm 1:1-3

What does it mean to walk in the counsel of the ungodly, to stand in the

path of sinners or sit in the seat of scoffers?

In verse 1, notice the progression of movement from walking, to standing, to sitting and the corresponding nouns: counsel, path and seat. What does this progression describe?

Examine your life. Are there places you are practicing this behaviour?

Verse 2 contrasts the behaviour of a blessed man or woman. Describe his or her behaviour

What are the results of this behaviour?

DISCUSSION- SHARE SOME WAYS YOU MAKE COMMUNION WITH THE LORD A PRIORITY


What are some things that are keeping you from spending time with the Lord?


What are some of the ways you can remove these distractions from your life?


Share how you have benefitted from spending consistent time with the Lord.


MY PERSONAL NOTES



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