

The 4 Seasons Of Faith

Following Christ Through The Seasons Of Life

Sermon Overview

The Seasons Of Life
(God's Purposes & Our Responsibilities)

Jesus Christ's "Summer"
(Gospel Of Luke)

Following In Jesus' Steps

The 4 Seasons Of Faith

The Seasons Of Life

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance..."

(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

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The Seasons Of Life

"...a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."

(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

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The Seasons Of Life

(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, The New Dave's Version)

"We will live through all of these seasons of life: there will be a time to be content in our wealth and a time to fear losing our wealth; a time to have peace in marriage and a time to have conflict; a time to be angry and a time to be a gentle..."

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The Seasons Of Life

(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, The New Dave's Version)

"...a time to be healthy and a time to be sick; a time to give gifts and a time to receive them; a time to be encouraged and a time to be rebuked; a time to be close with God and a time when we pull away; a time to rejoice and a time to mourn; a time to be right and a time to be wrong."

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The Seasons Of Life

God's Purposes & Our Responsibility

SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
God's Time To Generate	God's Time To Bless	God's Time To Withhold	God's Time To Refine
Our Time To Grow	Our Time To Rejoice	Our Time To Trust	Our Time To Persevere




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The Seasons Of Life

The Seasons As A Universal Paradigm

The Seasons Of Nature
 The Lifecycles Of Creation
 Relationship Cycles Within Marriages
 Our Intimacy With God
 God's History Of Redemption
...and on and on...



The 4 Seasons Of Faith

Defining "Summer"

A "Summer" is one of those special times in life where warmth, joy, and peace come with surprising ease and frequency.




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Jesus Christ's "Summer"

Jesus Felt God's Pleasure

Luke 3:21-22 – When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."




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Jesus Christ's "Summer"

Jesus Caused Wonder & Awe

Luke 5:24-26 – "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home." And immediately [the paralytic] rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today."




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Jesus Christ's "Summer"

Jesus Valued Prayer

Luke 6:12 – In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God.
 Luke 11:1 – Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray..."



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Jesus Christ's "Summer"

Jesus Caused Joy & Rejoicing

Luke 19:37-38 – As he was drawing near- already on the way down the Mount of Olives- the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"



Jesus Christ's "Summer"

Jesus Remembered God

Luke 10:21-22 – At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. All things have been committed to me by my Father."



Jesus Christ's "Summer"

Jesus Felt God's Pleasure
Jesus Caused Wonder & Awe
Jesus Valued Prayer
Jesus Caused Joy & Rejoicing
Jesus Remembered God



Following In Jesus' Steps

Experience God's Pleasure

Matthew 25:20-21 – The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'



Following In Jesus' Steps

Anticipate God's Power

Matthew 17:19-21 – Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. 'Nothing will be impossible for you.'"



Following In Jesus' Steps

Value Your Prayer Life

Ephesians 6:18 – And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Pray continually.



Following In Jesus' Steps

Enjoy God's Blessings!

Peter 1:8 – Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!



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Following In Jesus' Steps

Always Remember God

Deuteronomy 6:10-15 And when the LORD your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you- with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig...



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Following In Jesus' Steps

Always Remember God

...and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant- and when you eat and are full, ¹² then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ¹³ It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear...



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Following In Jesus' Steps

Always Remember God

... You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you, for the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God, lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.



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Following In Jesus' Steps

Experience God's Pleasure
Anticipate God's Power
Value Your Prayer Life
Enjoy God's Blessings!
Always Remember God



The 4 Seasons Of Faith

"Summer" Conclusions

What "Summers" Are You In Today?

Your Faith?	Your Education?
Your Finances?	Your "Toys"?
Your Marriage?	Your Peace?
Your Health?	Your Reconciliation?
Your Job?	Your Hope?
Your Ministry?	Your Freedom?



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“Summer” Conclusions

God’s Purpose & Our Responsibility

In the summers, remember that it is God who is blessing us, and remember to stay faithful to Him even though everything seems just fine.

God Blesses Us!
So...Enjoy! Obey! & Remember!



“Summer” Conclusions

“It is good and proper for a man to eat and drink, and to find satisfaction in his toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given him, for this is his lot. Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work...this is a gift of God.”

Ecclesiastes 5:18-19

