

ONE FROM THE HEART

God's Timing

"With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like a day." 2 Peter 3:8 (NIV)

Time is relative to God. He sometimes operates within it, but mostly, it seems, outside of it. We, on the other hand, are often consumed by time and timings.

When we want a fresh start, we think of it as a time to forget that which has passed and begin to concentrate on that which is present and, in the future, and make our plans. We sometimes resolve that what we have done in the past, we will not do in the future. But some of the situations around our lives persist because we do not deal with them. We don't grow if we can't change.

Our Father has infinite patience because He knows that our immaturity will prevent us from reaching and experiencing the highest place in the spirit. He is okay with spending twenty years on something that could have been done in two. He will not open up the next thing until we have obeyed His commands in the place we are occupying. He doesn't measure time; He measures growth. *(Radical Perceptions by Graham Cook)*

So, we need to understand how to navigate a journey of growth through the various seasons of life so we might remain in faith.

We have to come into a faith agreement that says God's timing is perfect and there is a season for everything. The key to moving with God's timing is to spend time in His presence, abiding with God through prayer and worship so that we are in tune with Him and what He is wanting to develop in us through a particular season.

Life's Seasons – Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

The beauty of how God orchestrated most climates to work is that He designed seasons distinct from one another but in such a way that they all work together to bring life and growth.

And it seems that just as in how God created the world to be at work, He also created us to live through seasons as well.

We need to identify the season we are currently in and then press in to our heavenly Father so we might rest in His grace – His empowering presence. This will see us through both the times of fruitfulness and the times of heartache and grief.

There must be a trust in God, a faith that just as with the seasons of nature, these seasons in our lives work together to bring about God's perfect will for each one of us. (Romans 8:28)

God's Timing for Our Lives

There's is an appointed time for everything. When going through the various seasons it becomes difficult to rest in God for His timing.

God is there just when you need Him, never early, never late. It is in the waiting that we must find the discipline to be faithful and to trust God with the outcome and we do this by bending our knee at the throne to receive the grace we need to hold on. (Hebrews 4:16)

God, in His sovereignty, knows what is in our future. If you are walking in the light, as He is in the light, you're not only having fellowship with Him, but you're also having assurance that your path is laid out before you. (1 John 1:5-7) Every sorrow, every disappointment, every joy, and every pleasure become used by God to stretch us and make us more than we have ever been before in the spiritual realm. God's grace and God's timing is sovereign.

One of the greatest temptations we have when we are waiting on God is to run. Instead – hold still, stand! (Ephesians 6)

My Timing Is Seasonal

To maximise our potential in the season we are in, there are two things that we must do.

1. *We must study the movement of God's timing*

We must become students of how God moves in our world and our spiritual life. Understand how God moves, know His voice, listen to what He is saying, wait on Him and understand who He is by consuming His Word. It is when we know what season we are in and what God's movement is we can discern what area of our life God is wanting us to grow in.

2. *Seize the moment of God's timing*

Don't only study the movement of God's timing but seize the moment. God's timing is seasonal, and it comes in and for a period of time, seize the moment when it comes.

If you prematurely abort the process by not waiting on God, He will not open up the next thing until we have obeyed His commands in the place we are occupying. Remember, He doesn't measure time; He measures growth. So, we need to understand God's timing in order to seize the right moment. This requires intimacy!

Prayer Response

Lord God, in our particular season, whatever it is, we turn to You. We ask You to change our world, beginning with us. We acknowledge that only in living out our obedience to Your will, do we find happiness and true fulfilment. Give us a new start, a new beginning, that in new life, which you offer us, we may prove you to be true. We set out into this season, with our trust in You our God, building intimacy with you in order to understand your timing and to seize the moment. Amen

Discussion Questions

1. What is your particular season at this time?
2. What is being developed in you during this season?
3. What wisdom do you need to process this necessary part of your journey?
4. How will you position yourself before the Holy Spirit?
5. Share together how in the past you have seen God come through when you have waited on Him and His timing in faith.
6. Pray for one another to receive God's mercy and grace for the season you are in.