

Stepping Into a New Season

Small Group Discussion Guide

"Stepping Into a New Season" | Pastor Bob Wright

1. SERMON RECAP

In this message, I shared how God has designed life to move through seasons -- and that staying connected to Jesus is the secret to thriving in every one of them. Even when we wander off course or find ourselves in a dry, discouraging season, the Holy Spirit is constantly working to redirect us back to where we belong. God is faithful, and He is always preparing something brand new for those who keep their trust in Him.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

John 15:4-5 (KJV)

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

3. ICE BREAKER

What is your favorite natural season -- spring, summer, fall, or winter -- and what do you love most about it? Does it remind you of any particular season in your spiritual life?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Getting Started

I mentioned that life moves through seasons -- spring (learning and growth), summer (labor and building), fall (harvest), and winter (rest and renewal). Which of those four seasons best describes where you feel you are right now spiritually? Why?

2. Digging Deeper

In Galatians 6:9, Paul tells us "let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." What do you think it practically looks like to "faint" in a season of waiting? Have you ever come close to giving up just before something broke open for you?

3. Going Further

I used the image of a GPS that keeps recalculating even when you ignore it -- comparing that to the Holy Spirit's work in our lives. Can you share a time when you felt God "recalculating" a route for you after you went your own way? What did that feel like in the moment versus looking back?

4. Getting Personal

I described something called a "soul drought" -- when your joy, peace, and expectation all feel dried up. Without oversharing anything you're not comfortable with, have you experienced a soul drought? What helped you -- or is helping you -- hold on during that time?

5. Challenge Question

I said that "faith is always forward moving," and I pointed to examples like blind Bartimaeus, Joshua stepping into the Jordan, and Peter stepping out of the boat. What is one step toward what God has for you that you've been hesitating to take? What's been holding you back?

6. Bringing It Home

Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us that "to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." How does trusting that God has a purpose in this season -- not just after it -- change the way you walk through a difficult or confusing time?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, write a bold prayer.

Find a quiet moment before Friday and write out a specific, forward-leaning prayer about one area of your life where you've been praying tired, survival-mode prayers. Make it bold -- name what you're believing God for, declare it out loud, and keep that written prayer somewhere you'll see it every day this week. Share it with your group next meeting if you feel comfortable.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- For anyone in a dry season: Pray that God would renew their strength, restore their joy, and remind them that He has not forgotten them -- that the rain is coming.
 - For boldness in faith: Pray that each group member would find the courage to take one step forward this week toward what God has for them, trusting that the door will open as they move.
 - For connection to the Vine: Pray that every person in the group would experience a deeper, more consistent abiding relationship with Jesus -- especially in the moments when life feels uncertain or off-course.
-

7. MEMORY VERSE

Galatians 6:9 (KJV)

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Leader's Note: If your group has people who are clearly in a difficult season right now, leave extra time after the discussion questions for prayer. Sometimes the most powerful thing a small group can do is simply stop and pray specifically for one another. Don't rush past that moment if the Holy Spirit creates it.