



# Seasons of Life: Recognizing your Purpose (Part 2)

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## Purpose Series 11

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**Topic:** Seasons of Life: Recognizing your Purpose (Part 2)

**Text:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - *To everything, there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted; (NKJV)*

## Introduction

The purpose series has been going on for a while now and we have arrived at a point where we examined the seasons of life. We had previously talked about how the sovereignty of God can be navigated by faith. There is no way we can become what God wants us to be if we do not first and foremost work with faith. *He doesn't want us to believe in a dimension of "fate" but of "faith"*; the key principle in walking becoming what God had purposed in His agenda.

We understood by revelation that in seasons of life, you must know when to switch by discernment. This is very crucial because remaining in a season when your time is over will make you irrelevant. Remember how we looked at the life of two deacons, Philip and Stephen, chose to serve the tables? There was a season in their lives when the divine direction and purpose came to them in an understanding that enabled them to switch into the next season of becoming an evangelist, working out signs and wonders. **You must understand the season when you ought to switch and move to the next level.**

We moved from there and began to look at four different seasons in every life to fulfil a purpose. **The first season is the Season of Recognition and Discovery.** There is no fulfilment without recognition. In the previous teaching, we explained the principles that this recognition entails.

- *The first principle is access to a consistent revelation, not just a 'once upon a time' revelation. We come to an understanding that there are different ways in which God reveals purpose. He reveals through visions: open vision, closed vision, and trance. We dwelled much on trance looking at the scripture where Peter saw a trance about killing to eat. The trance is interpreted as preaching to the Gentiles, a*

season Peter ought to switch to rather than staying at Jerusalem where they had saturated. He however was not quick to understand because of prejudice.

***"You must be careful about prejudice because it is so terrible that it can cause you to move out of God's plan for your life."***

Peter lost the ministry of spreading the Word to the Gentiles effectively because of prejudice and reluctance to switch seasons. Then, Paul was raised to take the ministry, he succeeded beyond imagination in the ministry because he understood the seasons. There are seasons daily that you must move into by recognition and understanding. My presence as the Senior Pastor of Believers Heritage is a season, and when time is up I will move. **The moment, a man misses his season, he will forever remain irrelevant.** May you never miss your season.

**"I implore you, understand your season."**

God can also reveal his purpose through dreams. Paul and Barnabas were on their way to somewhere else but along the journey, there was a revelation that came through a dream. It was a call to reach out to the Macedonians. I tell you it is not every dream that is wicked but some serve as a medium which God uses to pass messages to you. I pray the Lord will purify your dream life. Paul effectively switched and re-designed his destination after the dream. May you be discerning.

I urge you please at no cost should you miss your season in life, because when you do, the labour to redeem it back is often greater than you can imagine. In all, know that we get into the purpose of God for our lives by consistent revelation

- *The second principle of recognition of purpose is by burden.* If God has placed a burden in your heart concerning something peculiar that makes you sleepless, it is a pointer for purpose. In the last teaching, we explained more on how to blend burden because it is not every burden that makes you act. We looked at the approach of Moses in handling his burden inappropriately and how Nehemiah did otherwise. Every time you have a burden, you must not rush to act but instead, pray and fast to receive confirmation of direction. You must also be sensitive enough to the burden. It is the way God speaks to you to recognize purpose.

Let's go further now on how to recognize purpose in life.

### **3. Pains and Displeasure.**

God uses your pains and displeasure to create a dimension for what He has sent you to do. They serve as signals to God's calling in a particular area for you to take action. You might discover many a time, you feel displeasure and pain at the way things are going in your church or even workplace and you feel an urge to make it right. I tell you, God is showing you a path in line with your purpose. But one thing about this is that, as you make this right on your part, another person is also feeling displeasure about another thing and making it right.

***"Purpose continues and people key into it on a daily basis.***

**John 2: 14:16**

*And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them*

*all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" (NKJV)*

Jesus was displeased at the sight of people trading in the temple (Note: A temple is not synonymous with a synagogue; the latter can be likened to something like a multipurpose hall in contrast to the former). Being sad and in pain with the actions occurring, Jesus Christ acted appropriately to return order to the temple. When you check verse 17 of that scripture, you will realize that Christ's actions were birthed from the place of purpose. May God open your eyes to know what to do always.

***"Whatever displeases you MIGHT be a pointer to your purpose."***

## **2 Corinthians 1:4**

***"who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." (NKJV)***

*"He comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, he brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us." (MSG)*

Your pains can be a purpose. There are some terrible experiences that God allowed you to go through so that you can comfort others. It is not all your experience that is birthed by the devil. I have seen people go through certain experiences which eventually give rise to an anointing to bless the generation. In fact I am a witness to this myself, I had gone through a difficult experience as regards my academic life as a young

undergraduate and many times when I share my testimony people receive a new well of faith. They receive comfort.

God is sovereign and able to make you go through some experience and come out purposeful. Are you waiting? It's an experience. Are you trusting God? It's an experience. Whatever you are going through is an experience, there is something God is doing in your life.

The scripture above is so powerful, God is ahead of you working so know He will comfort you with all comfort not for yourself but so that others can be comforted. That is how you discover purpose. It is not everything that happens to you that you sit, weep and allow worries to take you down. There is more God wants to do in your life. Don't give up in that situation. Hard times can never last, it won't be late.

***"If you are running away from challenges and you are not embracing them, you will not enjoy purpose."***

Know that you are not alone in that experience, God is with you. Sing along with me if you have faith that you are not alone in that situation;

***"I believe***

***Yes Lord I believe***

***Yes Lord I believe***

***It is well with me."***

Shalom!