

Hidden Treasure of Life

Exploring the seasons of LIFE and discovering gold.

And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

(Mark 4:26-29 ESV)

4 seasons of Life – 4 growth opportunities

1. First the seed sprouts and forms the root

IT IS WINTER TIME

All vision starts in seed size.

Always small in the beginning.

A seed carries the entire DNA and all the potential for the completed project

but it requires work and the correct environment for success

First area of growth is the roots.

Root system is established in winter time.

If you have developed the root system then you will have a growth and harvest season

Jeremiah 17:7-8

⁷ **'But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.**

⁸ **They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.**

It does not fear when heat comes;

its leaves are always green.

It has no worries in a year of drought

and never fails to bear fruit.'

In the tough seasons we discover where our life is really anchored and if can be secure in the storm.

** It is well with my soul!

Man was on his way to missions and his family was lost at sea as he approached the place where the ship went down he was able to SING – IT IS WELL!!

Ephesians 3:16-20 (NLT)

¹⁶ **I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. ¹⁷ Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him.**

Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. ¹⁸ And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. ¹⁹ May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

My life is ROOTED and ESTABLISHED in LOVE!

Your tough seasons are your opportunity time to develop your rootedness of life in GOD. DO you trust Him? Are you secure?

2. Then the shoot or the blade.

The shoots then appear above ground - **this is SPRING TIME!**

Out of the season of winter and planting dreams - the process of faith and watching what will grow, the hardship and challenge – new revelation and growth begins to emerge from your life.

2 Samuel 11:1

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

SPRING TIME

Discern the season

Shift - the hour had leapt forward

New momentum - new mandate

GREAT EXPECTATIONS!

The warm breeze comes on your garden!

Song of Solomon 2:10-13

10 My lover said to me, "Rise up, my darling! Come away with me, my fair one! Look, the winter is past, and the rains are over and gone. The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come, and the cooing of turtledoves fills the air. The fig trees are forming young fruit, and the fragrant grapevines are blossoming. Rise up, my darling! Come away with me, my fair one!"

Spring time is a time of hope and expectation

Renewal of faith - **if your hope is depleted then your faith is impaired**

Spring time is time of perspective

Need to look at horizons - what do you see

Can you see the early promises of breakthrough

Zechariah 10:1 ESV

Ask rain from the Lord in the season of the spring rain, from the Lord who makes the storm clouds, and he will give them showers of rain, to everyone and the vegetation in the field.

3. Then the Flowers appear – or the head .

IT IS SUMMER TIME

Now you are just about to come into a season of rapid growth in your life.

This is a time of danger as we have forgotten WINTER time and we feel more independent and capable and able to make life work.

We are easily deceived and think we are doing well - and we can make life good!

Deuteronomy 4:9

Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

When life is going well do not forget God who has blessed you with favour.

Song of Solomon 2:15

Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom.

One of the most dangerous attitudes is I CAN DO THIS! We need to live dependent!

4. Finally - fruit – it is harvest time!

God wants our lives to be fruitful – we come to the season of FULLNESS>
Things – dreams – expectations now are birthed and become reality.

Take the harvest and present it to GOD>

Time for gratitude and celebration and then consecration....ready for you again.

Time to see the goodness of God from the WINTER TIME and recognize the fruit from the time of difficulty

We have to learn to REAP and SOW

We are more used to the concept of sowing and the work to SOW in the church but what about recognizing the time to REAP?!

How do we celebrate answers to PRAYER?

How do we celebrate financial breakthroughs?

How do we look in the field of our prayers and recognize the harvest time?

Time for memorials and remembrance – this is the NEW YEAR – let us celebrate the harvest in our lives.

What has changed in the last 1 year – 10 years – 40 years?!

Understand the different harvests and waiting times for these different fields to come into harvest.

Some are annual – decade and generational.

Joel 2:19

The Lord replied to them: 'I am sending you **grain**, new **wine** and olive **oil**, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

We have the grain – wine and oil!

Part of the blessing of God is seeing the harvest from this year, this decade and the generations – 3 harvests in one!

Lev 26:9-10

⁹ "I will look favorably upon you, making you fertile and multiplying your people. And I will fulfill my covenant with you. ¹⁰ You will have such a surplus of crops that you will need to clear out the old grain to make room for the new harvest!

Then once we have harvested – we have to clear it out – do not get stuck in yesterday and live in the past and become sentimental.

Clear the threshing floor and start a new season!

Jeremiah 31:12

They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the Lord – the **grain**, the new **wine** and the olive **oil**, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more.