

## Bearing Fruit in Every Season

January 7, 2024

- Psalms 92:12-14
- 2 Corinthians 4:13–15
- Flourish – Defined
  - To be in a vigorous state, to thrive
  - At one's prime, at the height of fame, excellence, influence

## The Righteous will flourish

- Made Righteous
  - 2 Corinthians 5:21
  - Titus 3:5
- Live Righteous - 1 John 3:7
- Bearing the Fruit of Righteousness - Philippians 1:10–11
- Psalm 1:1–3

## Bearing Fruit in Every Season

- Seasons of Life
  - 0-20 – Education
  - 20-40 – Business and Babies
  - 40-60 - Civic Involvement
  - 60-80 – Elders in the Gates of the City
  - 80-100 – by reason of strength – Caleb and Moses caliber
- Joshua 14:10–12
- Deuteronomy 34:7
- Psalm 1:1–3
  - Descriptive activity of the righteous
  - Result – flourishing – bearing fruit in each season
- Dormant – defined – quiet and inactive, as during sleep
  - From Latin dormire
  - Dormitory (Dorm rooms)
- Spiritual Dormancy – as individuals? as a church?
  - Absence of the appearance of flourishing
  - Fruit = fruitfulness
  - Sleep = rest
- Mark 6:31–32 Then Jesus said, “Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.”
- Matthew 11:28–30

## Seasons of Rest – Dormancy – what is it all about?

- The Fruit of Dormancy
  - Preparation for adverse conditions
  - Conserving energy for when favorable conditions return
  - Roots continue to develop and thrive
  - Still producing, but inward – vascular tissue and roots rather than leaves, flowers, fruit
- Spiritual Dormancy
  - A season when our inner character is developing and strengthened
  - Strong character is essential for withstanding storms and adverse conditions during growth and harvest seasons
- Leviticus 25:3–4 Fallow the Ground
- The goal of fallowing is to allow the land to recover and store organic matter while retaining moisture and disrupting pest life cycles and soil borne pathogens by temporarily removing their hosts

## Dormancy may be a Season of Waiting

- Genesis 15:2–3
- Genesis 16:2
- Dormancy is temporary
- It is preparation for the seasons of planting, cultivating, harvesting
- Concern that this kind of message could lead to laziness
- Holy Discontent
  - The uncomfortable gap between what we are and what we have the power to become
  - The uneasiness in someone when they see any aspect of the brokenness of this world and are stirred to do something about it
- 2 Corinthians 5:14–15
- The appearance of fruitfulness
- Dormancy is more about what is going on underground
- Bearing fruit or fruitfulness in every season
- Not to be discouraged, but to utilize dormant times as preparation for seedtime, cultivation, and harvest.
- Philippians 1:6