

## SEASONS

## Week 4: Winter, Dormant

Sept. 28–29, 2019

Adam Waite



⇒ *Leaders: note items marked with the arrows are key discussion questions if you're short on time.*

**WARM-UP**

What is your favorite thing to do (or not do) while sitting around a campfire or a bonfire?

**INTRODUCTION**

⇒ Think about the season of winter and name some things that happen that are helpful and necessary for plants and trees during the dormant season.

Adam talked about three things that we can do if we're experiencing a dormant season in life: drop your leaves, stoke the fire, and gather together. Let's take some time to focus on each one.

**Drop Your Leaves**

- ⇒ In what ways can going through a "dormant" season help someone to grow closer to God?
- ⇒ What are some things that place demands on our lives, our attention, our devotion to God that can cause us to fail to prioritize our lives properly?
- ⇒ What are some ways you have reacted when in a dormant or waiting season? Discuss why this was a healthy way to react or an unhealthy way to react.

**Read Deuteronomy 6:5 and Luke 12:31** – have members of your group read from different translations to compare.

- ⇒ How can we prioritize things in our life yet still not have them in the right order?
- ⇒ What might some of the costs be of prioritizing our life so we can place those things that should be at the top of the list in their proper place?
- ⇒ List ways we can become more intentional about making time to spend with God.

**BIBLE APPLICATION****Fan the Flame**

- ⇒ What are some keys to drawing closer to God?
- ⇒ What wisdom does **2 Timothy 1:6-7** give us? Give some examples of ways we can "fan the flame" on our spiritual gifts.

⇒ Reread Verse 7. Discuss what God has not given us and what he has given us. How can remembering these empower believers?

- Just like stoking a fire takes time and work, so does building our relationship with God. What are some steps you need to take to – some work you need to do – to stoke your fire?
- **Read John 14:23–27.** Discuss how obedience grows our relationship with God.
- What do apathy and disobedience do to our relationship with him?
- What is the result when our relationship with him grows?

**Gather Together**

- ⇒ Why are we sometimes tempted to isolate ourselves when we are in a dormant season?
- ⇒ Read **Hebrews 10:24–25** and **1 Thessalonians 5:11** What do these verses tell us we should or should not do?
- ⇒ Many of us when going through difficult times may tend to isolate ourselves. Why should difficulties not deter us from gathering with others?

**NEXT STEPS / ACTION**

- ⇒ Which are you experiencing currently: drop your leaves, stoke the fire, and gather together?
- ⇒ Dormancy is a waiting season. If you're in a waiting season, describe what you're asking God to do.
- ⇒ What are some steps you will take to be more intentional about setting your priorities in order to make more time for God?
- ⇒ What things can you lay down that may be good things but not the best things?
- ⇒ Read **John 10:10.** How can following the steps outlined in Adam's message help you to live "life to the full?"

**PRAYER**

Pray for strengthening in the waiting and for God's pruning and changing to bring about obedience and spiritual maturity (fruit).

