



GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

What Season Are We In?

Speaker: John Condon

Highlighted Scripture

- **Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (KJV)**

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:"

Ecclesiastes reflects on the many times and seasons that unfold under God's rule. John uses its language of planting, uprooting, building, and breaking down to ask whether God Family Country's mission should continue through different methods. The passage does not tell us to manufacture a preferred season; it invites humility about our limits and attentiveness to God's timing.

- **Isaiah 43:19 (KJV)**

"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?"

In context, God comforts his covenant people with the promise of a new act of deliverance. John draws from that hope as he considers whether the ministry may need to evolve. The verse is not a guarantee that every new idea will succeed; it calls God's people to notice and follow what God is truly doing.

- **James 1:5**

James urges believers who lack wisdom to ask God, who gives generously. The invitation appears in a passage about facing trials with steadfast faith. John applies it by bringing the ministry's uncertainty to God instead of pretending to already know the answer.

- **Proverbs 16:9 (KJV)**

"A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."

This proverb holds human planning and God's sovereign direction together. Planning is not wrong, but our plans remain accountable to the Lord. John's distinction between the mission and its methods reflects a willingness to plan faithfully while allowing God to redirect the path.

Discussion Questions

- What parts of a Christian ministry's mission should remain fixed, and what methods may need to change with the season?
- How can financial pressure or disappointment distort the way we interpret God's direction?
- Where are you tempted to keep something alive mainly because you invested time, money, or identity in building it?

- How can prayer, Scripture, wise counsel, observable fruit, and honest limitations work together when discerning a next step?
- What would meaningful participation look like in the Christian community God has placed around you, beyond simply expressing a preference?

Reflection Challenge

Set aside unhurried time this week to discern where a faithful mission may require a different method. Bring your hopes and fears before God before deciding the answer.

Ask yourself:

- Am I confusing a familiar method with the mission God actually gave me?
- Would I recognize a new season if it required me to release something I worked hard to build?
- Am I seeking God's wisdom, or mainly asking him to bless the answer I already prefer?
- Whose biblically grounded counsel do I need before taking the next step?

Try this:

- Write the mission in one sentence, then list the current methods beneath it. Mark which methods are essential and which could change.
- Pray through James 1:5, asking God for wisdom without demanding an immediate or comfortable answer.
- Invite trusted Christians to name the fruit, concerns, and possibilities they see, then take one small obedient step while leaving larger decisions open to God's direction.

Remember

- A difficult season does not automatically prove that the mission has failed.
- The mission may remain steady even when the method needs to change.
- Godly discernment begins with asking for wisdom, not defending a predetermined answer.
- Obedience matters more than preserving a project for the sake of pride or past investment.
- Christian community is not only something to evaluate; it is something we prayerfully help build.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

You are Lord over every season. Thank you for the good you have already done through obedience, generosity, community, and your Word. Keep us from clinging to a familiar method simply because we built it.

Give us wisdom to distinguish your mission from our preferred plans, receive honest counsel, and recognize the fruit and limits before us. Direct our steps, make us willing to release what you are ending, and give us courage to build what you are beginning.

Shape us by obedience over ambition, faith over fear, and loving Christian community. May everything we do glorify you and serve people with humility and truth.

In Jesus' name, Amen.