



This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

#### **Weekly Questions:**

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

#### **Seeking God In Every Season, July 6 2025, Bethany Smith Mullins**

**Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-15.** The writer of Ecclesiastes explains that there is a season for everything. Both things we consider "good" and "bad" have their season, as well as joys and difficulties.

#### **We can't choose the season of life we're in, but we can choose how we respond.**

- Have you ever wished you could control the weather? What's your favorite season and why? What other things like the weather do you wish were under your control?
- Bethany used the example of a riptide in the ocean. The best way through it is to go along with it instead of fighting against it. Why is it so difficult to "go along" with a difficult season in our lives? How might we surrender control in these times and trust God?

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#### **Our seasons don't define us.**

- Often we are defined by our successes and failures. How does God view us differently?
- In the seasons that do not bring happiness, where is God?
- Bethany gave the example of the "light at the end of the tunnel." Imagine that God is not at the end of the tunnel, but with us as we walk through darkness. Have you experienced this?

#### **God intends for us to experience joy.**

- Read verses 12-13. Though every season may not be marked by happiness, what do these verses mean to you? How might we be joyful in every season?

#### **As you reflect on this passage and seasons in your own life...**

- How have you seen God at work in both joyful and painful seasons of your life?
- How can you seek God in this current season?
- How can you be present and have hope in this season?