

STUDY THE BOOK: FINDING GOD'S GUIDANCE IN LIFE'S IN-BETWEEN SEASONS



Life often places us in difficult “in-between” seasons - those challenging periods where we're caught between God's promise and its fulfillment. David's experience in Psalm 27 offers profound wisdom for navigating these uncertain times through studying God's Word.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE IN AN IN-BETWEEN SEASON?

David found himself in a particularly difficult in-between season. Though already anointed as king, he wasn't yet ruling from a palace. Instead of living with the finer things of life, he was hiding as a refugee in the wilderness of Judah - living in caves, hills, and deserts while constantly running from King Saul. This was far from the throne he was anointed to sit on. He was hiding in temporary hideouts, constantly moving, always on the run. Sometimes the very environment God uses to protect us doesn't make it easier to endure.





HOW DO WE HANDLE EMOTIONAL STRUGGLES DURING DIFFICULT TIMES?

Throughout Psalm 27, David experiences emotional lows, fear, and discouragement. He's not pretending to have unwavering faith - he's literally wrestling with it. This teaches us something important: it's okay when your faith wavers sometimes. The key is to wrestle with it but hold on to it.

David was separated from his family and his place of worship. In these circumstances, God became his primary source, not his backup plan. When we're stripped of our usual support systems, we discover that God alone is sufficient.

WHAT DOES “TEACH ME YOUR WAY” REALLY MEAN?

When David prays “teach me your way, Lord” in verse 11, this isn't a beginner's prayer. It's the confession of a mature person who has been through enough to know they can't make it on their own. Sometimes we think teaching is only for beginners, but true maturity recognizes our complete dependence on God.

David was accomplished, victorious, and anointed, yet he still said “teach me.” This shows that gifts without God don't sustain us - God sustains the gift. The key phrase here is “your way” - not our way, but God's way.



WHY IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TELLING AND TEACHING?



When you tell someone something, you hope they understand. But when you teach someone, you make sure they understand. God didn't just tell us how to live - He gave us a comprehensive playbook: the Bible.

We can't just read the book or glance over it during commercial breaks. We must study the book. In it, we find playbooks for every situation we'll face in life.

**WHAT ARE
GOD'S
PLAYBOOKS
FOR LIFE'S
CHALLENGES?**



THE SPIRITUAL WARFARE PLAYBOOK FOUND IN EPHESIANS 6, THIS TEACHES US TO PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD:

- Belt of truth (integrity and alignment with God)
- Breastplate of righteousness (living right)
- Shoes of peace (stability and right movement)
- Shield of faith (defense against daily pressures)
- Helmet of salvation (mental protection)
- Sword of the Spirit (God's Word as our strength)

THE TRUST AND ALIGNMENT PLAYBOOK

Proverbs 3:5-6 instructs us to trust God rather than lean on our own understanding. Our trust in God must be greater than our understanding. When we acknowledge Him in all our ways, He directs our paths.





THE CRISIS RESPONSE PLAYBOOK PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9 FOCUSES ON MENTAL DISCIPLINE DURING ANXIETY AND PRESSURE:

- Rejoice always
- Pray specifically
- Replace worry with truth
- Practice godly thinking

THE WAITING ON GOD PLAYBOOK

For those in-between seasons and delayed outcomes, Psalm 27:14 says:
"Wait for the Lord, be strong and let your heart take courage. Yes, wait
for the Lord."

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “PAUSE” BEFORE ACTING?

David consistently inquired of the Lord before making decisions. Before pursuing any course of action, he would ask God for direction. This principle of pausing before acting is crucial for our spiritual success.

Before making that phone call, going somewhere you shouldn't, making poor choices, or responding to temptation - pause. When you're in dark, lonely, or forgotten places, that's when you're most likely to make bad decisions. David teaches us to pause and inquire of the Lord.

If you sincerely inquire of God, He will guide you. If He says don't move, don't move. If He says move, then move with confidence knowing your path is God-ordained.

HOW DO WE TRUST GOD'S TIMING?

When we're in cave moments - whether for days, weeks, months, or years - we must trust that God is up to something. The promise didn't fail in the cave; it was protected in the cave. When you're obedient to God and still going through difficulties, He has to be working behind the scenes.



We can walk in confidence when our path is God-ordained. Even in difficult moments, we can trust that God hasn't brought us this far just to abandon us.

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Teach me
your way.

WHY IS STUDYING SCRIPTURE DIFFERENT FROM JUST HAVING INFORMATION?

In our information-rich age, we often mistake having access to information with having wisdom. We need godly wisdom, which comes from studying God's Word, not just consuming endless information.

True wisdom comes from inquiring of the Lord and saying, "Teach me your way." We must trust God for the outcome, whether we understand it or not.

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pause principle

LIFE APPLICATION

This week, commit to implementing the “pause principle” in your daily decisions. Before making any significant choice - whether it's responding to a text, making a purchase, or deciding how to spend your time - pause and inquire of the Lord.

Additionally, establish a consistent time to study (not just read) God's Word. Treat it as the comprehensive playbook it is, looking for specific guidance for the situations you're facing.

Ask yourself these questions:

Am I trying to do things my way instead of seeking God's way?

When was the last time I paused to inquire of the Lord before making a decision?

How can I move from just reading the Bible to truly studying it as my life's playbook?

What in-between season am I currently in, and how can I trust God's timing more fully?

**REMEMBER, THE
SAME WORD THAT
CARRIED DAVID
THROUGH HIS DELAYS
WILL CARRY YOU
THROUGH YOURS - IF
YOU COMMIT TO
STUDYING THE BOOK.**