



Understanding the Spaces and The Seasons

Spaces In Your Life (Part 2)

October 9, 2022

Series Summary: Managing Your Spaces and Your Seasons

1. Ram in the Bush (God's Plans for Your Surprise Seasons, Part 1)
2. Understanding the Spaces and the Seasons (Part 2)
3. Being Content in the Seasons (Part 3)
4. Managing a Boring Season (The place prosperity is built, Part 4)
5. A Digital Youth Surprise Service

Big Question: How do you manage the changing spaces in your life?

- **Life Changing Statement by Esther Lee**
- **On December 13, 2021, before her 97th birthday, at 9:12am, she looked in her phone directory and noticed almost everyone in it was gone.**
- **She has learned to live with the new spaces in her life and embrace life without many of the people she loved.**

Spaces Theory: Most people struggle during two seasons of life.

1. They struggle when their lives have **no spaces**
2. They struggle when their lives **have a lot of empty spaces**

Defining the spaces:

- The spaces are the list of things you have on your daily calendar. Things like raising kids, building a business, going to college, caring for a loved one, and building a ministry. All of these things fill up all the spaces or schedules in our lives.
- The different spaces are sometimes filled with abundance and sometimes with challenges. There is a season when all the spaces of your life should be filled, and there is a season when a number of seasons in your life should be vacant.



I. Luke's Advice on Managing Your Seasons (Luke 14:28)

Luke 14:28–15:1 (NIV):

28 “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first **sit down and estimate the cost** to see if you have enough money to **complete** it? 29 For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, 30 saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

31 “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. 33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

II. My Personal Tips on How to Manage Your Life Spaces (or Seasons)

1. Draw **Boundaries** (Define the boundary lines for your investments, time and relationships)
2. **Adjust** to the new spaces (Accept the fact that everything will change in your life)
3. Set **priorities** (Determine what your goals and objectives are for your life)
4. **Enable** your priorities (Align your stated priorities with your schedule and calendar)

III. How To Manage a Fast Placed Season

(Check Your Definitions)

1. Define your **goals** (Sit down and decide)
2. Define your **steps** (Estimate the cost, I underestimated)
3. Define the boundaries of your **capacity** (“see if you have enough,” v28)
4. Define what **completion** looks like (v28-29)

IV. How to Manage Slower Paced Seasons?



1. Embrace **new goals**
2. Embrace the **finish line** (2 Timothy 4:7-8, “I finished my course”)
 - Admit you are finished with certain priorities
3. Re-define **success** (The old definitions will not work for this new season)
4. **Re-engage** your world (This time with more experience and patience)
5. **Release** your past and build a new future (Like Abraham at 75 and Moses at 80)

Quotes To Consider

- “Our rhythm of spiritual practices also needs to be ruthlessly realistic in view of our stage of life. A married couple with young children will have radically different rhythms from those of the retired couple whose children have left the nest. If we do not take into account a realistic assessment of our stage of life, we are doomed to fail.”¹

Next Time: Being Content in My Season

Read Ahead: Philippians 4:11-13

¹ Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation by Ruth Haley Barton (Page 148)