

### III. DECISION #3: CAREER

*“and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God.”*

Ecclesiastes 3:13

The sweet spot for your work is to find something you like to do so much that you would gladly do it for nothing; then learn to do it so well that people are happy to pay you for it.

A. Look up and ask: God, what do you want me to do?  
*“And He said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?”*  
Luke 2:49

B. Look back and ask: What have I enjoyed learning and doing?  
*“But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.”*  
Galatians 6:4

C. Look in and ask: Who am I?  
*“For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”*  
Romans 12:3

Recommended resource: Career Direct  
[www.careerdirectonline.org](http://www.careerdirectonline.org)

D. Look around and ask: What opportunities are available to me?  
*“Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ’s gospel, and a door was opened to me by the Lord,”*  
II Corinthians 2:12

### BE FAITHFUL IN PREPARATION

### FAITHFUL Through The Seasons Of Life Faithful In Preparation Pastor Steve Reynolds

#### INTRODUCTION

A. Solomon wrote, *“To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:”* (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Just like there are seasons in nature, you will go through different seasons in life. No matter what season you are in the one constant requirement from God is for you to be faithful.

*“Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”*  
I Corinthians 4:2

Faithful means to be full of faith!! And when you are faithful God will bless your life.

B. In this message series, Pastor Steve will reveal how to be faithful through the seasons of life. He will draw from forty years of experience in leading our church. He will guide you through six important seasons that are common to all of us. This six part series features the following messages:

TODAY	Faithful In Preparation
Aug 28	Faithful In Family
Sep 4	Faithful In Obedience
Sep 11	Faithful In Sacrifice
Sep 18	Faithful In Health
Sep 25	Faithful In Revival

C. **Text:** Ephesians 5:15-17

Success is finding the will of God early in your life and following it your whole life.

## HOW TO BE FAITHFUL IN PREPARATION

Faithful in preparation is based upon making three good decisions:

### I. DECISION #1: CHRIST

*“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

John 14:6

*“30 And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”*

*31 So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”* Acts 16:30-31

#### A. Establish a relationship with Christ.

- Admit that you are a sinner in need of a Savior.  
*“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”* Romans 3:23  
*“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*  
Romans 6:23
- Believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for your sins and rose from the grave so that you could go to heaven.  
*“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*  
Romans 5:8  
*“that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”* Romans 10:9
- Call upon the Lord through prayer for salvation.  
*“For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”* Romans 10:13

#### B. Grow in your relationship with Christ.

*“but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ....* II Peter 3:18a

### II. DECISION #2: COMPANION

*“He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD.”* Proverbs 18:22

#### A. Trust the Lord to meet this need in His way and time.

*“11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:*

*13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”* Philippians 4:11,13

#### B. Remember that there is something worse than being single and that is being married to the wrong person.

*“9 Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.*

*19 Better to dwell in the wilderness, Than with a contentious and angry woman.* Proverbs 21:9, 19

#### C. Make sure they are saved and Spirit filled.

*“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?”*

II Corinthians 6:14

#### D. Date for one year (the four seasons) before getting engaged.

*“Love suffers long...”*

I Corinthians 13:4a

#### E. Find a person who is a lot like you.

*“Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?”*

Amos 3:3

#### F. Maintain Sexual Purity

*“Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”*

Hebrews 13:4

#### G. Receive Pre-Marital Counseling.

*“Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”*

Proverbs 11:14