



The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You

By Richard Blackaby

Download now

Read Online 

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby

What season of life are you in?

Each of us goes through periods of life that have a certain character—a few months or a few years, good times or difficult circumstances, times of brilliant joy or periods of dark clouds. Often we say, “It’s just the season of life I’m in.”

But did you know that just as God has purposes for the seasons of nature, he also uses seasons in your life to grow you, work with you, and talk to you?

Richard Blackaby explains in *The Seasons of God* how understanding the principles of the seasons can offer us hope, direction, insight, and intimacy with God himself. It’s a thoughtful exploration of God’s patterns at work in our lives—how His will is being carried out in the best way...at the best time.

Your plans, your relationships, your career, your ministry—all have their unique God-intended moment. God’s Word expresses it this way: “For *everything* there is a *season*, and a *time* for every matter under heaven.”

So what’s your season of life? And what is God telling you through the season you’re in?

 [Download The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Y ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of ...pdf](#)

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You

By Richard Blackaby

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby

What season of life are you in?

Each of us goes through periods of life that have a certain character—a few months or a few years, good times or difficult circumstances, times of brilliant joy or periods of dark clouds. Often we say, “It’s just the season of life I’m in.”

But did you know that just as God has purposes for the seasons of nature, he also uses seasons in your life to grow you, work with you, and talk to you?

Richard Blackaby explains in *The Seasons of God* how understanding the principles of the seasons can offer us hope, direction, insight, and intimacy with God himself. It’s a thoughtful exploration of God’s patterns at work in our lives—how His will is being carried out in the best way...at the best time.

Your plans, your relationships, your career, your ministry—all have their unique God-intended moment. God’s Word expresses it this way: “For *everything* there is a *season*, and a *time* for every matter under heaven.”

So what’s your season of life? And what is God telling you through the season you’re in?

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #289950 in eBooks
- Published on: 2012-08-21
- Released on: 2012-08-21
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Y ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online **The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You** By **Richard Blackaby**

Editorial Review

Review

Praise for *Seasons of God*

“Never! Now that’s a big statement. However, I have never heard a better Bible teacher than Richard Blackaby. To say that I am excited about this new book is the understatement of the new millennium! Read with anticipation

about the seasons of your life and be inspired to make the most of each.”

— Johnny Hunt, senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Woodstock, GA

“Time is both one of the world’s greatest resources and one of the most misused. Blackaby does a masterful job in showing how God has given us seasons of life to make the most of the time we have.”

— Will Graham, executive director of the Billy Graham Training Center

“God has uniquely gifted Richard with the ability to explain life in a way that is fascinating, enjoyable, and always eye-opening. This book will make you think. It will help you see God in everything from your crises to the mundane. Ultimately it will compel you to live your life with renewed fervency and joy.”

—Henry T. Blackaby, author of *Experiencing God*

“This book is one of those rare finds. Not only does it bring fresh insight to familiar scriptures, but it is also practical. This is a concept that will immediately change the way you view your circumstances and will help you redefine your outlook. *The Seasons of God* is written out of a deep well of wisdom drawn from experience, by an author willing to be authentic and transparent in his communication.”

— Jennifer Kennedy Dean, author of *Live a Praying Life* and executive director of the Praying Life Foundation

Seasons of God.indd 1 7/5/12 4:09 PM

“I have worked with Richard Blackaby for a number of years and have been impressed by his ability to use compelling stories and images to communicate profound truths. In this new book he expertly describes how our lives flow through seasons. I am impressed with how Richard explains life in ways you may never have considered before. But most importantly, he demonstrates how you can thrive in every stage of your life. This is one of those books that can change the way you think and live.”

— Dick Schultz, executive director of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (ret.) and executive director of the United States Olympic Committee (ret.)

“The ebb and flow of life has a rhythm, best lived in step with God as our Creator and Sustainer. Reading this book will help you find His pace for the current season of your life. God is constant, life is constantly changing, and our perspective on both must continually mature to fully experience His best.”

— Jeff Iorg, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary

“In *The Seasons of God*, you will find yourself understanding in new ways why certain things work the way they do at certain times of life. Read this book slowly and keep it handy, because Blackaby gives a lot of theological, biblical, and practical understanding of how God works in every season. You’ll want to refer to it the next time the weather changes in your own life.”

— Mike Glenn, author of *The Gospel of Yes* and senior pastor of Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood,

TN

“In this helpful work Richard Blackaby coaches us all to see the seasons of our lives from God’s perspective and from that vantage point to anticipate the new things He might have in store. Richard draws inspiration and insight from his own personal pilgrimage shaped by the context of God’s living Word to produce a thoughtful blueprint for any stage of life. *The Seasons of God* will be a helpful book for those courageous enough to honestly follow God well in the next chapter of life.”

— Jeff Christopherson, vice president of the North American Mission Board and author of *Kingdom Matrix*

“Sometimes we are so busy living the grind of daily life that we fail to step back and see things from a larger view. Knowing life comes in seasons can help us face those occasional hurricanes that seem to blast us off our path

and can help us enjoy the warmth of the good days. Read this book, whatever season you find yourself in. Take time to reflect, to be encouraged, and to press on.”

— Alvin L. Reid, professor of evangelism and student ministry, Bailey Smith Chair of Evangelism, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

“With humor, wit, and wisdom, Richard Blackaby poses a most important question: Are you thriving or merely surviving in your current season of life? This book is rife with laughter, transparency, and spiritual insights. A refreshing, delightful read that, if taken to heart, could show us how to be truly happy in Jesus.”

— Connie Cavanaugh, speaker and author of *From Faking It to Finding Grace* and *Following God One Yes at a Time*

“Whether you’re in hard times or good, old age or youth, this book is sure to comfort, encourage, and enlighten. It will help you understand where you’ve been, fully embrace where you are, and prepare you for where you’re going. Don’t allow another season to race by without experiencing all that God has in store for your life.”

— Daniel Blackaby, author of *When Worlds Collide* and *Legend of the Book Keeper Seasons of God*.indd 3 7/5/12 4:09 PM

“*The Seasons of God* offers refreshing breezes for weary travelers journeying through life. Richard’s perspective will take followers of Christ to a deeper level of daily fulfillment and understanding of God’s heart for His people.”

— Kimberly Sowell, founder of Kingdom Heart Ministries and author of *Journey to Significance*

“No matter what type of book you’re looking for—or for whatever area or stage of your life—you just found it. Read this book!”

— Rick Osborne, best-selling author and coauthor with Dr. Gary Chapman, Larry Burkett, and Dr. John Trent

About the Author

Dr. RICHARD BLACKABY is a well-respected pastor, leader, popular speaker, and best-selling author. He has served as the president of Blackaby Ministries International since 2006. The son of renowned pastor and author Henry Blackaby, Richard provides biblical and personal perspectives in his books, including *Experiencing God*, *Fresh Encounter*, *Hearing God’s Voice*, *Unlimiting God*, *Putting a Face on Grace*, and *Called to Be God’s Leader*. He lives with his wife, Lisa, in Greenville, South Carolina. They are blessed with three full-grown children.

Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Finding Our Bearings

Are you sure you should be reading this book? I mean, right here, right this moment?

Now, to be honest, I'm fairly confident your best answer to that question is yes—maybe even “Yes, absolutely!” I asked because, you see, this book explores something that involves getting your timing right for all you do and where you do it. It's about being free to really enjoy what you're doing and where you're doing it—and to make the most of every experience.

Let me picture it for you.

How Did I Get Here?

My son Daniel has given our family numerous reasons to chuckle. Often he makes us laugh so hard our sides hurt. He's that kind of guy.

For instance, there was that time in Hawaii. I'd been the president of a graduate school in Canada for ten years when the board of trustees surprised me. Wanting to thank me for the school's progress, they voted to send my wife and me to Hawaii. Living in Alberta, we faced January temperatures plunging to minus-forty degrees, so we enthusiastically accepted the board's generous expression of appreciation.

My three teenage children soon approached me with a grave concern. They feared we couldn't possibly enjoy ourselves all alone in the tropics, knowing that they were shivering back home in the Arctic air, parentless.

The next thing I knew, they were coming too, and our all-expensespaid, romantic getaway became an exorbitant family odyssey.

The day we flew out of Calgary, the mercury was sitting at minus twenty-eight. Long hours later upon landing in Lihue, Kauai, we were greeted by temperatures in the seventies. We rented a car and drove to our lodging. In under a minute our pale-skinned, sun-starved offspring dashed into our beachfront town house and emerged in their swimming attire, ready for action. With nary a comment such as “Dad, is there anything we can do to help?” they sprinted to the beach.

Jet-lagged and famished, I found the nearest grocery store and stocked up on essential food supplies, including copious amounts of snacks for my freeloading teens. Lisa began nesting—sorting the bedding and assigning rooms.

Finally my wife and I trudged wearily to the beach. Daniel greeted us cheerfully. “Did you get any good food? I'm starving!” I hastily assured him I had no intention of making him lunch but that the patio door to our town house was unlocked and there was now a plethora of overpriced groceries awaiting him.

He meandered back to the town house and discovered, much to his delight, a bountiful supply of all his favorite junk food—Double Stuf Oreo cookies, nacho chips, and plenty more. He voraciously ripped open a bag of cookies and popped the tab on a can of Coke. Flopping happily onto the couch in his soaking-wet swimsuit, my son parked his sand-covered feet on the coffee table. Spewing all manner of crumbs and debris as he inhaled his snacks, he flipped on the television and... Could it be? ESPN? A hockey game? Life did not get any better! He sighed in contentment and surveyed his surroundings. To his right he could see ocean waves lazily rolling in. In his lap lay the food of the gods. Before him a large-screen TV featured his most

beloved sport. And emerging to his left—a scowling stranger clad in only a towel. It was at that precise moment Daniel realized he was in the wrong town house!

“How did I get here?” our embarrassed son wondered on that lazy, tropical day. He’d been minding his own business, enjoying what life placed before him, and simply trying to satisfy his appetite.

Now, in and of itself, that particular town house was by no means an inappropriate environment for Daniel. And it’s easy to imagine a situation in which nothing at all would be wrong about his being there. As a fun-to-have-around guy, Daniel might have eventually met that stranger’s family on the beach and received an invitation to drop by (along with his parents and siblings, I like to think). Or, on a repeat vacation to Hawaii (one can hope!), that town house might actually become the one rented by our family.

But on that particular day, those were not the governing circumstances. And so, to his horror, Daniel discovered that he wasn’t where he thought he was or wanted to be—and he certainly wasn’t wanted where he was!

Life can be like that sometimes. We can get our bearings confused and misunderstand the cues coming from our environment.

The Issue

For Daniel, his misunderstanding resulted in his having to bolt out a patio door in serpentine fashion, mumbling apologies along the way. But for the larger and more profound misunderstanding that pertains to this book’s topic, the consequences can be tragic.

It’s an oversight that can fill our outlook on life with confusion, doubt, and stress. How did this happen? we end up asking ourselves. Why am I here? What brought me to this point? Am I stuck in this mess forever? Our situation seems so far from what we planned, what we expected, what we hoped. How did all that slip away?

Relationships, jobs, and opportunities that began with such promise can degenerate into lethargy, disappointment, regret, and even bitterness. Ultimately, this huge misconception I’m speaking of can lead to wasted months, lost years—even a squandered life.

It can play out like this:

- A young husband and wife grow disillusioned about their marriage; their bliss once held eternal promise but now seems crushed under the suffocating weight of unmet expectations.
- A mother and father are bewildered by their adolescent son’s anger and rebellion; the child they loved as a preschooler, who gave them so much love and joy in return, has become a stranger.
- A woman in her fifties wrestles with the depressing awareness that certain dreams, cherished since her youth, may never find fulfillment.
- A man in his thirties languishes in a difficult job, but the worst struggle of all happens every morning as he searches for a compelling motivation to embrace the day.
- An executive who has achieved tremendous success in his career now reaches the sickening realization that his ambition cost him his family.
- A talented and personable young woman who once enjoyed setting enthusiastic goals for herself now finds that she’s bored with life.

How do we prevent those scenarios?

Can they be avoided?

An invaluable part of the answer is to better recognize the proper flow of our lives from God's perspective—and, in particular, to catch the God-designed seasonal rhythms that underlie His plans for us, in everything we do.

Total Coverage

Probably the most famous Scripture passage that addresses this issue is found in Ecclesiastes 3, beginning with the well-known words “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven.” This and the following lines are a favorite passage for many, filled with that attractive mix of the familiar and the mysterious that so often gives memorable poetry its greatness and power.

To step back a little for a bigger view, you may recall how the book of Ecclesiastes paints a broad-stroke portrait of “everything that is done under the sun” (1:14, esv)—that is, of life's reality as considered especially from a this-world, here-and-now perspective.

I'm sure you also remember from the creation account in Genesis 1 that the sun is described there as the “greater light” among the heavenly beacons God created as markers “for signs and seasons, and for days and years” (verses 14, 16). So as far back as the opening page of Scripture, we see the seasons as a dynamic, God-ordained feature of life on earth.

This leads us to something we learned in science class at school—how the earth's tilt on its axis is what allows the sun's influence to bring about the seasons we experience. During our planet's yearly orbit around the sun, the Northern Hemisphere warms up as it swings around and faces the sun more directly (reaching a peak in June); six months later it's the Southern Hemisphere's turn to do the same, leaving the northern regions to chill.

Maybe you've wondered about this. Exactly why did the Creator set it up this way and divide the year into seasons? Since the Bible emphasizes that God made the earth “good” (as we're told seven times in Genesis 1), why didn't He simply set the earth's thermostat to a comfortable room temperature and create a greenhouse effect year round? Why include dramatic climatic changes throughout each year, from bitter cold in the dead of winter to sweltering heat during summer? As a dad who's bankrolling a fashion-conscious daughter, I'm fully aware of the expense of maintaining separate wardrobes to accommodate four rotating seasons!

Of course, not every region of the world has four clearly distinct seasons. The Arctic and Antarctica never warm up because their latitudes are too extreme; seasons there are identified by the amount of sunlight they receive, or the lack thereof. In regions closest to the equator, where the earth's tilt is hardly noticeable, temperatures stay fairly constant, and seasons are more typically thought of as wet or dry (though even these rainfall patterns are ultimately affected by the sun's influence and the earth's tilt).

Moreover, because oceans warm up and cool off at different rates than dry land does, islands and coastal regions tend to have much more moderate seasonal changes than inland areas do. Related to this is the fact that the Northern Hemisphere has larger land masses than the Southern Hemisphere has, bringing differences in how the seasons are experienced in the north and the south. (All of which means...if you're reading th...

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tara Thornton:

Now a day people who Living in the era where everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not require people to be aware of each information they get. How people have to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information mainly this The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You book because book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Ariane Swanson:

Often the book The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You has a lot associated with on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was published by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research previous to write this book. This particular book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this article book.

Terry Crabtree:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside together with friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book will surely hard because you have to accept the book everywhere? It alright you can have the e-book, delivering everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You which is having the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's notice.

Anthony Jones:

That book can make you to feel relax. This book The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You was bright colored and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You has many kinds or style. Start from kids until young adults. For example Naruto or Investigator Conan you can read and believe that you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book are generally make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and unwind. Try to choose the best book to suit your needs and try to like reading in which.

Download and Read Online The Seasons of God: How the Shifting

Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby #N0ZJYWIBS3K

Read The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby for online ebook

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby books to read online.

Online The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby ebook PDF download

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby Doc

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby Mobipocket

The Seasons of God: How the Shifting Patterns of Your Life Reveal His Purposes for You By Richard Blackaby EPub