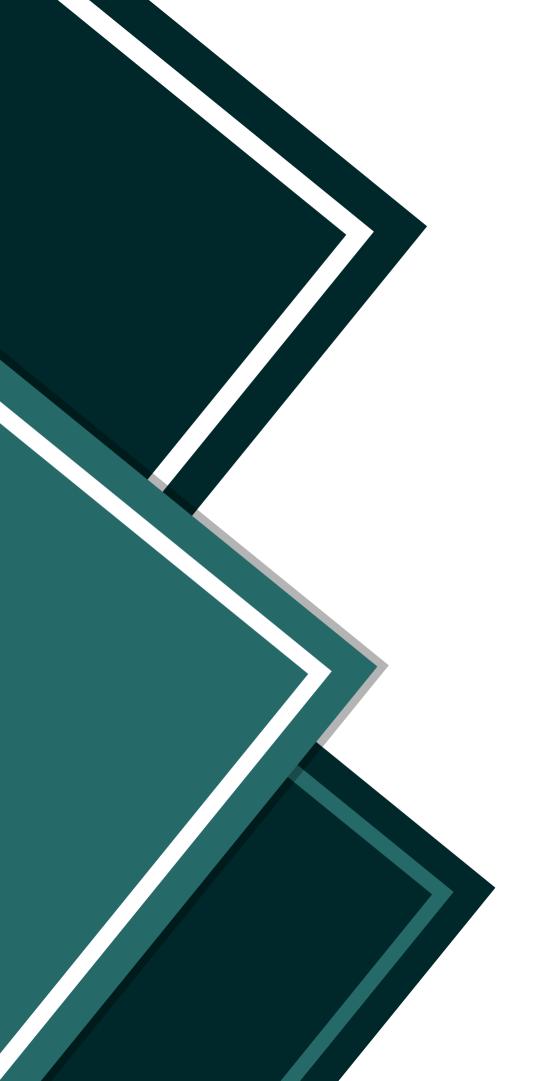




### Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.



# What do we learn from Solomon?



# What do we learn from Solomon?

Seasons, Stages, and Rhythms matter!

## Key Question: Ministry and Rhythm

Have you discovered seasons and rhythms in your ministry area or do you feel you are constantly sprinting?



## ENEMY #1

The Myth of Balance

What time is it in your ministry?



What time is it in your ministry?

1. Stage



What time is it in your ministry?

- 1. Stage
- 2. Season



What time is it in your ministry?

- 1. Stage
- 2. Season
- 3. Rhythm



## STEP ONE

Identify Your "Stage"

## Stages of Church Life

Maturity

Growth

Decline

Birth Early Years Death
Close Doors

## STEP TWO

Identify Your "Season"

#### Seasons























## STEP THREE

Establish Your Rhythms

#### Advantages of Rhythm vs. Balance

Burdens of Balance	Benefits of Rhythm
Guilt over not giving adequate attention to every priority at every time	Peace in releasing expectations that do not fit this time and in setting a healthy pace for activities
Busyness in trying to push every purpose and ministry in every season and stage	Fulfillment in seizing the unique opportunities offered by each season
Stress in the attempt to keep everything proportionate at all times	Joy in embracing the blessings of each time and in the oscillation of work and rest
Despair of being stuck in the impossible pursuit of keeping everything in balance	Hope in anticipating a new season ahead and the ultimate rhythm sure to come

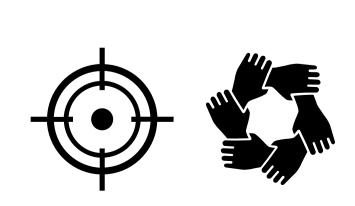


1. Focus on five to six peak moments in the year.



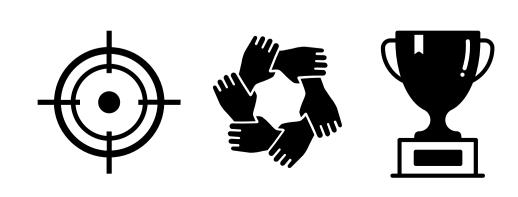


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- 2. Build unity and excitement as you climb toward peak moments.



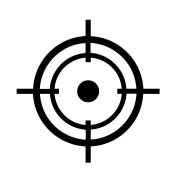


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- 4. Take breaks from busyness. Build margin into your ministry schedule.



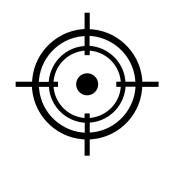








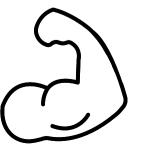
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- 5. Strengthen the ongoing ministries between the special moments.



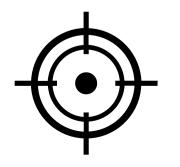








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- 6. Eliminate the good and bad distractions.





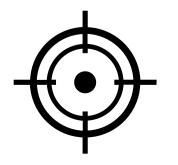








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- 4. Take breaks from busyness. Build margin into your ministry schedule.
- 5. Strengthen the ongoing ministries between the special moments.
- 6. Eliminate the good and bad distractions.
- 7. Spread the leadership load around.















#### Weekly

Faith Talks
Community Groups
Student Lifegroups
Baptism

#### Annual

Easter

Christmas

Caring 4 Katy

Kamp, VBS, Mission Trips

## Connecting Church and Home

#### Semi-Annual

Milestone Months (April & Oct)
Community Group Service Projects
Restore Prayer and Worship
Resource Magazine

#### **Monthly/Quarterly**

Parent Open Forums
Men / Women Ministry
Resource Newsletters

# ORGANIZATION & TEAM RHYTHMS