

Look Up and Look Out
Pastor Dave Patterson
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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

LOOK UP = What is God doing in all this?

LOOK OUT = Who does God want me to reach through all this?

There's a tendency in our human nature in times of trial: we look inward and down, and we lose sight of what God is doing.

- 1. The road of faith often comes disguised as a delay or a distraction.**

The will of God can be camouflaged as a waste of time and energy, but God turns delay into destiny!

He will not waste your time, your energy or your finances.

[John 4:35, TPT]

As the crowds emerged from the village, Jesus said to his disciples, ***“Why would you say, ‘The harvest is another four months away’? Look at all the people coming—now is harvest***

time! For their hearts are like vast fields of ripened grain—ready for a spiritual harvest.

[John 4:35, AMP]

Do you not say, it is still four months until harvest time comes, Look! I tell you, raise your eyes and observe the fields and see how they are already white for harvesting.

2. The will of God is usually right in front of us because it's always about people!

God goes to the broken, the lonely, and the most messed up people, and He reveals Himself.

If we're doing Church well, it's supposed to get awkward; embrace the awkward situations to get the gospel out there.

Love people well. The details will be revealed.

What if the best evangelists to reach a nation aren't even in the church yet?

The will of God is living a life of thankfulness and prayer, loving people well and generously, and loving God with your whole heart, mind, soul, and strength.

3. Look up = What is God saying to you about this season?
Look out = Who do you need to reach?

FOR MONDAY—

1. Schedule a phone call, Zoom, or visit with someone needing support.

2. Consider sponsoring a child through TFH's OneChild partnership (TFH.org or on the App).

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What are some defaults people turn to in tough times?
2. Which delays or distractions have been capturing your attention in this season? How can we align our focus with God?
3. What is God saying in all this? What is he speaking to you and your family about the next few months?
4. How can you be looking out? In other words, who can you serve that might be experiencing more challenges right now?
5. What are some awkward situations you might need to embrace to get the gospel to people?
6. How does living with an open hand make a way for supernatural release? What are some ways to do that during this pandemic?
7. When you look around, where do you see "fields white with harvest?" (personally, locally, nationally, or globally)
8. What is the bigger picture for the Church this "Covid year?"