



## Sunday December 27, 2020 Transitioning

Moving from one stage to the next.

LIFE IS LIVED IN SEASONS WITH TRANSITIONS. We transition from one season to the next.

All of us are on the brink of two common transition points:

1, A calendar change, 2020 to 2021 – This may or may not be significant. To some it is just as simple as turning a page. You go to sleep on December 31, 2020 and wake up Jan 01, 2021 and it is just another day, with just a date change. To others the coming of a new year could mean big things – perhaps the year you will graduate and step into the workplace; perhaps the year you will be getting married, and so on.

2, Life amidst a pandemic (lockdown, restrictions) to at some point in the near future, life without these restrictions. We've had to make a lot of changes to adjust to the restrictions of life amidst a pandemic. This may have been challenging. And now, slowly, we would need to step back into a life without these restrictions.

Aside from these two obvious transitions, all kinds of other transitions happen in life:

School to college

College to work life

Single to married life

One job to the next

Change in roles in your workplace

One city to another city

Sometimes transitions happen in difficult situations:

Loss of a job

Loss of a family member/loved one

Breakdown of a marriage

For some of us transitions are simple and natural. The danger is that these people get so used to transitions that they keep moving at random, without forethought. For example – changing jobs. If your resume is filled with lost of job changes this could bring up some difficult questions during job interviews.

For others, transitions can be difficult. They find it difficult to let go or difficult to step into something new. So, the danger is people tend to stay longer than they should or go



through an upheaval when making the change. So, transition becomes a 'painful' experience for themselves, and others close to them.

The Bible teaches us that OUR TIMES ARE IN HIS HANDS (Psalm 31:15). The 'when', the 'why', the 'how' – the seasons of our lives are in His hands. And GOD CHANGES TIMES AND SEASONS (Daniel 2:21), whether it be the seasons of our individual lives, in the Body of Christ or individual nations or among the nations.

There are several Scriptural passages from which we can glean insights on how to transition well. So, in today's message we will share few insights on things we can do to prepare and accommodate transitions and to transition well.

One of the classic passages of life transition is Joshua chapter 1. Joshua had been serving under Moses for some time now. In Numbers 27:12-27 Joshua had been officially appointed as a successor to Moses. Shortly after that inauguration/dedication, Moses died.

Let's read:

Joshua 1:1-11

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying:

2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.

5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.

6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.

7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."



## Joshua Assumes Command

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

11 "Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.' "

## HOW TO TRANSITION WELL

### #1, REFLECT

Remind yourself

Reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness to His promises

Review the positive things that have happened.

Review the mistakes made and lessons learned.

God promised Joshua "as I was with Moses, I will be with you".

God reminded Joshua of His promise to His people.

### #2, RENEW

Refresh yourself. Be revived within. Strengthen your inner man.

God told Joshua repeatedly 'be strong and very courageous'

We renew ourselves by waiting on the Lord (Isaiah 40:28-31).

### #3, REFOCUS

Sometimes, the situations leading up to the transition or surrounding the transition can blur our focus. We don't see things as clearly as we used to or as we should. Our focus becomes blur or could even shift on to other things.

This happened to the people of Israel. They took their eyes off God's promises and instead became impressed with the giants in the land. God was calling Joshua now to focus on His Word, His promises. He said 'meditate in my word day and night and you will be prosperous and have good success' (Joshua 1:8).

Jesus taught us that a clear vision brings light. But a blurred or darkened vision, puts the whole person in darkness. It is like walking in darkness (Matthew 6:22-23).

You know you have lost focus, when little things take the place of more important or most important things.

You know you have lost focus when you are distracted and expending time and energy on things other than the main things.



For example Jesus taught us “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you” (Matthew 6:33). This is a call to focus. The Kingdom of God has to always remain first in our lives.

#### **Psalm 119:37**

**Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, And revive me in Your way.**

So check up on your vision.

Clear out the things that interfere with your vision.

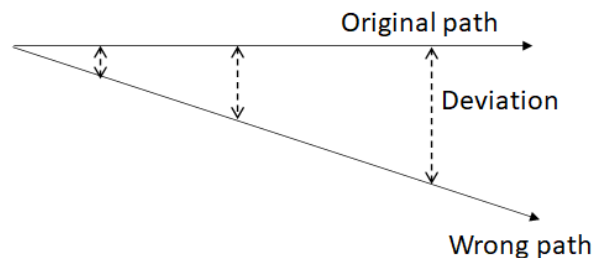
Refocus on your primary assignment.

#### **#4, REALIGN**

God told Joshua you need to go and set foot on the land that I have given you.

For about 39 years, the people of Israel were off-course. They were circling round the Mount Seir mountain range. Until God said, it is time to get back on course.

Sometimes, in the situations leading up to the transition or surrounding the transition we could deviate just a little bit from our main path. But if we keep going on just a small variation, just a few degrees off-course, soon our deviation from the main path can become significant.



So check up if you are aligned to God, to His Word, to His Ways. If there are deviations, then make changes to get back on track. Realign to the original path you were to take.

God told Joshua: ‘do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go’ (Joshua 1:7). In other words, stay aligned to my instructions.



## #5, REPOSITION

Repositioning means that you get into the right place at the right time to see the purpose of God fulfilled through your life.

Till this day, Joshua was a follower. He received instructions from Moses and followed through faithfully. He remained faithful to his leader. Now he had to step up in front. He had to step into 'Moses shoes' so to speak. He had to lead from the front. And this is what Joshua did.

### **Joshua 1:10-11**

**10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,**

**11 "Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.' "**

Repositioning is very important to stay aligned to the purposes of God.

Elijah had to reposition himself from Cherith to Zarephath to receive God's provision for his life (1 Kings 17:1-9).

John the Baptists disciples had to move from following John to following Jesus, to stay current with what God was doing (John 1:35-37).

Do you need to reposition yourself?

What steps do you need to take you reposition yourself?

## #6, REINVENT

Repositioning very often may involve reinventing yourself.

You must become a new you, for the new season coming upon you.

**EVERY NEW SEASON DEMANDS A NEW YOU.**

As we mentioned, Joshua transitioned from being a follower to being a leader.

This means that using all that you have learned in the past – the experiences, the skills, etc. – you become the new person God desires you to be. You may also intentionally acquire new skills, learn new insights, etc.

## **SUMMARY**



Reflect  
Renew  
Refocus  
Realign  
Reposition  
Reinvent

**MINISTRY TIME | SALVATION CALL**



**USEFUL RESOURCES**



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>