



Pastor Ron Carpenter Jr. | Redemption Church – pt. 5

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Pastor Ron teaches that God often gives us a vision, promise, or picture of the future before we see it with our natural eyes. The challenge is learning to trust what God has spoken over what circumstances seem to be saying. He takes us through how unresolved grief, disappointment, and loss can keep us stuck in yesterday, preventing us from stepping into the "next" season God has prepared for us. Let's dive in! Remember to open in prayer.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FAITH SEES BEYOND WHAT NATURAL EYES SEE

God-given vision must become stronger than what we currently see with our natural eyes. Circumstances often appear to contradict God's promises, but faith chooses to trust God's Word over what we see. Vision is not about denying reality; it's about believing God is working beyond what is presently visible.

- What situation in your life right now, challenges your ability to trust God's vision/word?
- Why is it often easier to believe what we see than what God has spoken?
- How can we strengthen our faith when circumstances seem to contradict God's promises?

GRIEF CAN DELAY GOD'S NEXT SEASON

1 Samuel 16:1 – "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him...?"

Samuel's grief over Saul shows how mourning can become prolonged beyond its intended season. While grief is a natural and healthy response to loss, God does not intend for His people to remain trapped there indefinitely. At some point, God calls us to release what was lost so we can embrace what He is doing next.

- What is the difference between healthy grieving and becoming stuck in grief?
- Have you ever struggled to move forward because you were focused on what was lost?
- What steps can help someone transition from mourning into renewed hope





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GOD HAS MORE AHEAD THAN BEHIND

1 **Samuel 16:1** – God directs Samuel to stop mourning Saul and go anoint David.

God had already prepared David while Samuel was still grieving Saul. The message reminds us that God is never surprised by our losses and is already working on our future. When we release what God has closed, we position ourselves to receive what God is opening.

- What does it look like to trust God with your future after disappointment?
- Why do people sometimes cling to what God is trying to move them beyond?
- How can a person recognize when God is leading them into a new season?

CLOSING

God is always sharpening us. Through challenges to trust His vision more than our circumstances, we are to release anything that keeps us anchored in the past. God never minimizes our pain, but He also refuses to leave us trapped in it. Just as Samuel had to stop mourning Saul in order to anoint David, we must be willing to let go of what was lost so we can embrace what God is preparing next.

AS A GROUP

Take a moment, as a group, to individually identify one area where each person may feel stuck between what they see and what God has promised. Break up into pairs and pray for one another specifically, asking God to replace grief, disappointment, or fear with renewed vision and faith for the future.

PERSONAL FOCUS

Each day this week, continue to pray over what you identified in the group, as a place you may feel stuck. Spend five minutes thanking Him for what He is doing ahead rather than focusing on what is behind.

Close in prayer 🙏

