

January — July 2025 Wednesdays @ 7:30PM

"Reaching Within": Trusting God in Transition

Overview

This series seeks to explore what it means to trust God in a season of transition. With special emphasis placed towards our present context, the course aims to both acknowledge the impact of transition for the Christian and community of faith, all the while changing the lens by which we view it. Through engagement of biblical texts, source material, dialogue and research, the overall end point is to view transition not as a destructive force, but an occasion for God to provide directives for our destiny.

Goals

The goal of this series is 3-fold:

- To define "transition" and acknowledge within our context why it carries a negative connotation
- Dialogue with the Word of God to distinguish between what God is showing us and what we "see"
- Engage strategies for transformative work

Encouragements

Exploring one's faith relationship authentically requires some degree of vulnerability and personal exploration. As such, to gain a firm grasp of the material, one should be prepared to

- Read provided materials, note questions for discussion
- Draw honest comparisons and contrasts between the children of Israel, the early church and the present church
- Consider where God is during this period, and how God is at work

Reverend Dr. James H. Alexander: Pastor/Facilitator

Materials

- Holy Bible
- Warnock, Raphael. The Divided Mind of the Black Church.
- Weems, Renita. Listening For God: A Minister's Journey Through Silence and Doubt.

Milestones

1/8/2025

Introduction: Understanding Transition

3/17/25 No Class – March Gladness Revival

7/30/2025 Course Wrap Up

Course of Study

| DATE | PART | TOPIC | SCRIPTURE / TEXT |
|---------|---|--|-------------------------|
| 1/8/25 | Understanding Transition | Introduction to Transition | Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 |
| 1/15/25 | | God's Sovereignty in Change | Isaiah 55:1-9 |
| 1/22/25 | | Purpose in Transition | Romans 8:18-28 |
| 1/29/25 | | Facing Fear in Transition | Isaiah 41:1-10 |
| 2/5/25 | Trusting God's Character in Transition | God's Faithfulness | Lamentations 3:22-23 |
| 2/12/25 | | God's Guidance in Transition | Proverbs 3:1-6 |
| 2/19/25 | | Provision Amid Uncertainty | Philippians 4:10-19 |
| 2/26/25 | | Peace in the Storm | Mark 4:35-41 |
| 3/5/25 | | God's Timing vs. Our Timing | Isaiah 40:28-31 |
| 3/12/25 | | Avoiding Abandonment Insecurities | Deuteronomy 31:1-13 |
| 3/19/25 | No Class: March Gladness Revival | | |
| 3/26/25 | | Footsteps in Faith | John 9:1-25 |
| 4/2/25 | | God's Promises in Transition | Joshua 1:1-9 |
| 4/9/25 | Preparing the Heart | The Power of Surrender | Luke 9:18-27 |
| 4/16/25 | | Cultivating Gratitude | I Thessalonians 5:16-18 |
| 4/23/25 | | Overcoming Anxiety | Matthew 6:25-34 |
| 4/30/25 | | Spiritual Growth Through Transition | James 1:2-1-8 |
| 5/7/25 | | Getting Past the Past | Isaiah 43:14-21 |
| 5/14/25 | | Renewing the Mind | I Peter 2:1-9 |
| 5/21/25 | | Faith in Action | James 2:14-26 |
| 5/28/25 | | Listening to God's Voice | John 10:22-30 |
| 6/4/25 | Living Through Transition | Building Community in Transition | Hebrews 10:19-25 |
| 6/11/25 | | Resilience Through Christ | I Corinthians 10:1-13 |
| 6/18/25 | | Living Out Hope | Jeremiah 29 |
| 6/25/25 | | Rejoicing in Every Season | Romans 15:1-13 |
| 7/2/25 | | Faithful Stewardship in Transition | Matthew 25:14-30 |
| 7/9/25 | | Rest in God's Peace | Matthew 11:25-30 |
| 7/16/25 | | Encouraging Others in Transition | II Corinthians 1:1-11 |
| 7/23/25 | | Celebrating God's Faithfulness | Psalm 126 |
| 7/30/25 | | Summary: Transitions | |