

## **Living in Hope with the One Leader Study Series**

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### **Title: Key Lessons in Times of Transition**

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Here are 5 lessons to consider during times of transition that we can use every day to keep a hopeful perspective:

#### **1. Certainty in the midst of uncertainty.**

I am out of control, yet the Lord is fully in control and can be counted on even if I can't see Him. He is providing and will continue to provide what He wants, and I am not to worry about the future.

**Matthew 6:33-34** says, *“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”*

Security is found in Christ and not in circumstances.

#### **2. Being freed up in the middle of any lockdown.**

I should take time to reflect, rest, be still, and be thankful when what I really want to do is take action. The Lord has freed me from my everyday tasks to focus and refill my cup.

**Psalm 46:10** says, *“Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”*

My attitude either leads to frustration or being filled up in Christ and possessing His fullness.

#### **3. Step back before going forward.**

I must turn my attention from the immediate needs and concerns to look toward the horizon and the future.

**John 4:35** says, *“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.”*

My perspective and focus will either be on what I need to do or what the Lord is already doing.

#### 4. Press on as the world presses in.

I can choose to be stuck, react, or respond. The crisis will either break me or make me into something new. It will shake me, but the question is will it shape me?

**Philippians 3:8, 10, 12-14** says, *“More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ...<sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death...<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. <sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

I should choose well how I use my time (I won't get it back), or my future will be chosen for me.

#### 5. Plans are nothing, planning is everything.

The Lord has a plan even in the midst of crisis and problems. I fit into His plans, and the Lord is not impressed by my big plans. He is interested in my motives and planning (in other words, trusting Him).

**Jeremiah 29:11-12** says, *“For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.’”*

**Proverbs 16:1, 3, 9** says, *“The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord...Commit your works to the Lord and your plans will be established...The mind of man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.”*

In my planning, there will be opportunities and open doors provided by the Lord if I am looking and moving forward.

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