



SESSION #4

LEARNING TO BE BOTH FAST & SLOW

Adult Midweek Bible Study - **Buhler Mennonite Church** - 25 September 2024

A. Checking In: Take some time to share with the group what you discovered about your SHAPE last week?

"There is a right time and a right way to do everything, but we know so little!"

ECCLESIASTES 8:6 (GNT)

B. When to Move Fast

Run hard and fast in the faith.

1 TIMOTHY 6:12 (MSG)

Run in such a way as to get the prize.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24 (NIV)

I run straight to the goal with a purpose in every step.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:26 (TLB)

I run to win!

PHILIPPIANS 3:12 (GW)

1. When God tells me _____ .

Jesus said to them, "Come follow me..."

So Simon and Andrew immediately left their nets and followed him.

MARK 1:17-18 (NCV)

2. When I need to ask or offer _____ .

"... If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, to to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God.

MATTHEW 5:23-24 (MSG)

3. When I feel _____ .

Run away from all evil things ...

1 TIMOTHY 6:11 (NLT)

... Run away from the worship of idols.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:14 (NCV)

Run away from sexual sin ...

1 CORINTHIANS 6:18 (NCV)

4. When I've made a _____ .

When you make a promise to God, keep it as quickly as possible.

God has no use for a fool. Do what you promise to do.

ECCLESIASTES 5:4 (GNT)

5. When I have the opportunity _____ .

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, while it is in your power to act.

PROVERBS 3:27 (NIV)

If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done.

ECCLESIASTES 11:4 (NLT)

"All of us must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent me, for there is little time left before the night falls and all works comes to an end."

JOHN 9:4 (TLB)

6. When God offers me _____ .

God is ready to help you right now. Today is the day of salvation.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:2 (NLT)

C. When to Move Slow

It's smart to be patient ...

PROVERBS 14:29 (CEV)

1. When I don't have _____ .

Zeal without knowledge is not good; a person who moves too quickly may go the wrong way

PROVERBS 19:2 (NLT)

What a shame--yes, how stupid!--to decide before knowing the facts!

PROVERBS 18:13 (TLB)

2. When I'm _____ or _____ .

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

JAMES 1:19 (NIV)

*Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding,
but people with quick tempers show their foolishness.*

PROVERBS 14:29 (ESV/NCV)

The godly think before speaking.

PROVERBS 15:28 (NLT)

Losing your temper causes a lot of trouble, but staying calm settles arguments.

PROVERBS 15:28 (CEV)

3. When making a _____ .

Wicked people bluff their way [through life], but God's people think before they take a step.

PROVERBS (CEV)

Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.

PROVERBS 4:26 (ESV)

*** YOU CAN'T "PONDER" FAST.**

*Sensible people will see trouble coming and avoid it,
but an unthinking person will walk right into it and regret it later.*

PROVERBS 22:3 (GNT)

4. When waiting for a seed I've planted _____ .

*For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven ...
A time to plant and a time to harvest ... a time to scatter ... and a time to gather ...*

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-5 (NLT)

God says, "At the time I have decided, my words will come true. You can trust what I say about the future. It may take a long time, but keep on waiting--it will happen!"

HABAKKUK 2:3 (CEV)

*May God keep us centered and devoted in him,
following the life path God has cleared, watching the signposts,
and walking at the pace and rhythms God has laid down for our ancestors.*

1 KINGS 8:58 (MSG)

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Think about a recent temptation you faced. *How fast did you flee from it? How would you rate your response time?*

2. Share an example of a time you had a chance to do good. *Did you act immediately? If so, what did you see God do as a result of your quick action? Did you delay? If so, what stopped you, and how might you handle it differently next time?*

3. James 1:19 teaches that we should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. *How have you seen God work in a situation as you followed that guideline? What's happened when you didn't?*

PRAYER DIRECTION

What do you feel God nudging you toward doing? It may be to have a daily quiet time, invite a friend to church, or start serving in a ministry. This week, make a promise to God and take action:

Ask God to reveal any areas in your life where you've been moving too fast or too slow.

Give those areas to God and ask for wisdom to rest in divine timing. Ask God to help you discern when to move quickly in obedience and when to be equally obedient in patience.