

# STAGES

*Finding God Where You Are*

## AT A GLANCE:

Our talk series, STAGES: Finding God Where You Are, is about the various phases of life and how one may know and feel the Presence of God in each of those stages.

**First Stage:** The first 20 years of your life, and its purpose is to explore, to discover who you are—specifically, your calling, your values, and your identity.

**Second Stage:** The next 20 years—from 20 to 40 years old—and its purpose is to expand your life. In this stage, you develop your calling, your craft, and as always, your character. You also enter into new territories.

**Third Stage:** The next 20 years—from 40 to 60 years old—which is the time to be exact. To zero in. To focus even more on your distinct mission and increase your impact in the world.

**Fourth Stage:** This consists of the remaining years of your life, where you prepare your exit, pass on the baton, and possibly enter into new worlds.

## AFTER THE SERIES:

You will see God in what you're doing. You will see God in the ordinary routine of your daily life.

## Talk 1: "Expand"

### WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

**Talk 1** is about the first 20 years of your life, and its purpose is to explore, to discover who you are—specifically, your calling, your values, and your identity. The key message is God is right here, right now.

**Talk 2** is about the second stage of your life— from 20 to 40 years old— where your goal is to expand what you already have. Yes, pray for expansion.

But here's a warning: When you expand, you'll meet pushback. You'll face resistance. The key message: *"God fights your battles."*

### I. REVIEW THE KEY BIBLE VERSES:

**Review** the Jabez prayer: *Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border... (1 Chronicles 4:10 ESV)*

In 1 Chronicles, Jabez is a well-respected man (ancestor in the lineage of the kings' tribe of Judah) whose prayer to God for blessing was answered.

The name Jabez is Hebrew (yabetz = יַבֵּץ) for "distress or pain"; his mother stated "I gave birth to him in pain". (See details below on "Optional Notes.")

Review the story of David. In the First Stage, he was a shepherd boy. But in the Second Stage, he became a Warrior. In the different stages of your life, your roles may change, but your calling remains the same.

After David won over Goliath and he became a commander, the Bible says, *David led his men in battle and was successful in all he did, because the Lord was with him. (1 Samuel 18:13-14 GNT)*

# STAGES

**Talk 1:**  
*Explore*

**Talk 2:**  
*Expand*

**Talk 3:**  
*Exact*

**Talk 4:**  
*Exit*

Notes:

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