



PRAYER: Eternal God, we come before You to acknowledge that our lives often feel like the grass—constantly changing, swaying in the wind, and weary from the heat of the day. We confess that we often anchor our hearts to things that wither: our reputations, our bank accounts, and our own fleeting plans.

Lord, steady our hearts. Forgive us for the times we've let the "withering" noise of the world grow louder than Your voice. When our circumstances shift and our comforts fall away like autumn petals, remind us that Your Word stands as a firm foundation. We thank You that Your promises do not have an expiration date and that Your character does not change with the seasons.

Spirit, give us eternal eyes. Help us to invest our time, our love, and our energy into what lasts. Teach us to build our lives on Your truth so that when the storms of life come, we remain standing. May this small group be a place where we remind one another of Your endurance when we feel weak. We walk out into this temporary world today with our feet planted on Your eternal Rock. In the name of Jesus, the Word made flesh we pray, Amen.

ICEBREAKER: If you could guarantee that one thing you did today would last forever, what would you want it to be?

INTRODUCTION: In all honest faith, there is some real doubt. So often we discourage people from expressing their doubts or shame people because they have doubts. But the truth is, even the strongest believers (*in scripture and in life*) had doubts, and those doubts are what we're going to dive into on a deeper level in this series. Whether you call yourself a believer or not, this series is for you. It is for those of us who believe, but who also find ourselves saying, "Lord, help my unbelief!" It is also for those who don't believe because of their doubts. Doubts unexpressed are doubts unaddressed.

SCRIPTURE: Read Isaiah 40:8 (NRSV): The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

DISCUSSION:

1. **What stood out in the message?** What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message?
2. Identifying the "Withering Grass" - In our modern lives, we often pour time and energy into things that feel permanent but are actually "withering grass." Looking at your current schedule or stress levels, what "temporary" things are taking up the most of your emotional



Welcome!

SERIES: I Doubt It

Today's Message: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt

Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000

energy? How would your perspective change if you viewed them through the lens of being temporary?

3. Finding Your Foundation: The verse promises that God's Word "endures forever." When you are going through a season of major change or instability (a job loss, a move, or a health scare), what specific promises or truths from the Bible have served as your "anchor?" Why do those truths feel more solid than your circumstances?
4. Practical Investment: If the flowers of this life are destined to fall, we have to decide where to invest our best efforts. If you truly believed that God's Word was the only thing that lasted forever, how would that change the way you spend your "free time" this week? What is one practical way you can prioritize the eternal over the temporary?
5. Responding to Cultural Shifts: Cultural values and societal "truths" change like the seasons, often contradicting what they stood for a decade ago. In what ways do you feel the "withering" of the world's opinions lately? How does the unchanging nature of God's Word give you peace or confidence when the world around you feels like it's shifting underneath your feet?

CHALLENGE: This week, identify one "withering" worry you can intentionally trade for a specific, "enduring" promise from God's Word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also "find, follow and like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g. answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH
GROW | PRAY | SERVE



WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000

Welcome!

SERIES: I Doubt It

Today's Message: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt

Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

We Care!

As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472

EMAIL: prayer@myspbc.org.

FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000

EMAIL: emergencyassistance@myspbc.org.

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org

SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org

Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: juan.shackelford@myspbc.org

Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org

Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: michelle.townsend@myspbc.org

Encore (50-59): Lisa Johnson: Lisa.Johnson@myspbc.org

Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: maceo.freeman@myspbc.org

Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: roscoe.jones@myspbc.org

GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study.

Previous GPS Guides are available online at www.myspbc.org.