

REIMAGINE *Home*



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PROOF**

Devotions, Recipes, and Tips
for Loving Your Home Through Every Season

SARABETH GALIMBA

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for Loving Your Home Through Every Season

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*To my husband, Jeremy, for being my biggest
supporter and for making my dreams come true.
To my children, Jaden, Logan, Maddie, and Abbie—
may the wisdom in this devotional be something you
experience in your own homes one day.*





Contents

A Time for Everything 8

Spring

A TIME TO RESET 12

Resetting a Room 16

TASKS: Stewardship 18

Spring Cleaning 22

TRADITIONS:

Good Ground 24

Classic Compost 28

TASTES: Diligence 30

Fruit Tart Recipe 33

SIGHTS: Fruitfulness 36

Spring Florals 38

SOUNDS: Joy 40

Creating a Soundtrack 43

SOCIALS: Surprises 44

Cascarones 48

Summer

A TIME TO
CELEBRATE 50

Outside In and Inside Out 54

TASKS: Nature 56

Outdoor Spaces 60

TRADITIONS: Habits 62

Charcuterie Boards 66

TASTES: Togetherness 70

Three Bean Chili Recipe 74

SIGHTS: Wonder 76

A Healthy Home Perspective 80

SOUNDS: Peace 84

Relaxation Spaces 87

SOCIALS: Freedom 90

Cultivating Community 94

Fall

A TIME TO GATHER 96

Arrangements and Amenities 101

TASKS: Intentionality 104

Time Blocking 108

TRADITIONS:

God's Word 110

Flower Drying 113

TASTES: Imitation 114

Pumpkin Muffin Recipe 118

SIGHTS: Trust 120

Seasonal Checklists 124

SOUNDS: Redemption 126

Restoring and Repurposing 130

SOCIALS: Gratitude 132

Thanksgiving Tree 136

Winter

A TIME TO REST 138

Warm and Cozy 142

TASKS: Humility 144

Advent Calendar 148

TRADITIONS:

Generosity 150

Table Settings and Hosting

Tips 153

TASTES: Sharing 158

Puerquitos Recipe 161

SIGHTS: Light 162

Winter Glow 165

SOUNDS: Hope 166

Scents of the Season 169

SOCIALS: Family 170

Christmas Eve Brunch 174



A TIME *for Everything*

*For everything there is a season,
a time for every activity under heaven.*

—ECCLESIASTES 3:1 (NLT)

WITH EACH PASSING YEAR, I have gained a greater understanding of the truth that life is meant to be experienced in seasons. Whether we like it or not, our lives are seasonal, with times to reset, times to celebrate, times to gather, and times to rest. Though each season is drastically different from the others, it is also uniquely valuable and necessary. Seasons are also part of God's creative design, not just for the planet Earth but also for the places we call home.

Whenever we direct ourselves or our expectations away from God's design, the misalignment brings unnecessary stress and complexity into our lives. Fortunately, the opposite is also true. If we intentionally align ourselves with how God has designed the world, we are able to experience refreshing simplicity in our lives. This simple and seasonal perspective on life can be so transformative, particularly when it comes to our homes.

In today's society, it is so easy to be overwhelmed by an unhealthy pressure to have our homes looking like the latest magazine photo or Instagram post. As a result, we can find ourselves always searching for more luxury and perfection, instead of stewarding our homes towards hospitality and simplicity.

Whether you live in an apartment, condo, townhouse, camper van, two-story house, mansion, or anything in between, may this book invite you into seeing your home for the gift it is. As you read through the devotions, may you become grounded in the natural rhythms of life that God has created, and may the practical tips offered here encourage you to seek the beauty of simplicity that can be found in every season.

How to Use This Book

This book is equal parts devotional and practical guide. Depending on your current season, you can choose to focus more on the reflections or skip those for now in favor of the home styling tips included at the end of each section. You can also read everything in order or jump around as you prefer. Just as every home is unique and different, your experience with this book can be as individualized and personalized as you would like it to be.

The bite-sized inspirational essays are meant to offer you little moments of encouragement, peace, and calm in an otherwise busy or full day, whether you're running around your house all day managing chaos or whether you only arrive home in time to collapse into bed. These short reflections on life, home, and scripture invite you into a comforting space where you can pause, breathe, and rest in God's loving presence.

At the close of each reflection, you will find a Reimagine section that includes a few questions to prompt further exploration or application of the theme from that reflection. These questions will help you align your thinking with what God says about you and your home. Feel free to think about your responses, write them down in a journal, or discuss them with a friend or family member.

In addition to the Reimagine section, each reflection also includes a Refresh section with practical tips, simple decor ideas, delicious recipes, or fun activities for you to try out while navigating each season in your home. As you experiment with applying these refreshes to your home and its routine, feel free to tweak some of the steps or come up with your own ideas. After all, you're the best expert on your own home! These tips are merely meant to inspire you in creating your own rhythms, traditions, styles, and dreams for the home God has given you.



SPRING

A time to Reset

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,
he is a new creation.*

*The old has passed away; behold,
the new has come.*

- 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (ESV)



LAUNCHING A RESET is always one of the first steps we try when our tech devices are not working properly. The same can be said for most things. Just about everything around us needs a time to reset, including our homes. In the natural world, spring functions as the season for resetting. Whether with freshly formed flowers or newly born babies, the end of winter is always met by a chance to restart and grow again.

Resetting usually requires a willingness to let go of the old in order to look toward something new. In his second letter to the Corinthian church, the apostle Paul wrote that part of being a new creation in Christ means that the old needs to pass away. An easy enough statement to say, but it can be really hard to put into practice. Sometimes we like “the good old stuff,” and exchanging it for the new can feel scary or uncomfortable. But change—like in the seasons—is a natural part of life, and the act of surrendering can often lead to beautiful results.

During this spring season of resetting, don’t be afraid to let go of some old things or thoughts that may be keeping you from pursuing a better way forward, whether those are physical items cluttering your home or unhealthy habits keeping you from embracing and expressing the values you want to cultivate. As you explore the elements of the spring season, let the small changes you make in your home inspire you to allow resets in other areas of your life. Keep it simple, stay committed to the growing process, and remember that resetting opens the doors for new life, new opportunities, and new growth—and occasionally a Wi-Fi router that works.

Reimagine

*When have you experienced
a positive form of reset
in your life?*

*Which specific area of
your home is most in need
of a reset right now?*

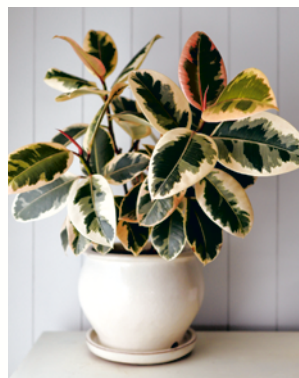
*Where could you use a reset in
your life currently?*

Resetting a Room

A Fresh Look

Spring is a perfect time for a reset, not only when it comes to creating new goals for the year, but also when it comes to refreshing our homes. After months of looking at the same decor or navigating around the same arrangement of furniture, spring offers us the option of a new perspective and maybe even a new aesthetic.

Keep in mind you don't have to completely redecorate or remodel during this season to experience a refresh. Sometimes all you need is to switch out some decorative items or shift a piece of furniture. If buying any new pieces, be sure to review your finances carefully and decide *before-hand* how much you are willing and able to spend. If your budget is limited, remember that thrift stores, secondhand shops, and online marketplaces are great resources. After all, what doesn't fit in someone else's home might be new and exciting for your space!



Tips for Refreshing a Room

- Change up the wall decor by spray painting your picture frames, finding affordable prints, or creating your own artwork. Feel free to store, sell, or donate your existing decor depending on whether you think you or someone else might use it in the future.
- Decorate with meaning and purpose by framing family photos or art pieces that are significant to you. If someone in the house is a photographer or artist, display their art!
- Add mirrors to the end of a hallway, across from a window, in the entryway, or in other “nook and cranny” places to help make a room feel wider and more open (thrift or antique shops usually have cheap options!).
- Shift the furniture to make the most of your space and the natural light from windows.
- Switch out curtains to change the feel of a room, being mindful of the current season.
- Update pillows, pillow shams, towels, linens, or throw blankets. Try to use lighter colors and fabrics for spring and summer.
- Make the most of an area rug by choosing one with lots of colors and then “pulling out” a different color during different seasons with other decorative pieces (e.g., throw blankets, pillows, candles, wall art, etc.).
- Minimize clutter by maximizing how you decorate. Instead of having random knick-knacks, try to incorporate items you use into a room's decor, such as books, lamps, vases, candles, plants, or a bowl of real fruit.



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