

Part 3: Seasons

May 18 & 19, 2019 Grant Fishbook, Lead Teaching Pastor

The seasons as we know them:

Winter Spring Summer Fall

The seasons as Solomon shares in Ecclesiastes 3...

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: ²a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,

Question: What needs to grow and what needs to go?

³ a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.

Question: What needs grieving and what needs celebration?

⁵ a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,

Context: The Israelites used stones for monuments and fortresses. **Question:** What needs to be built and what needs to be torn down?

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, ⁶ a time to search and a time to give up,

a time to keep and a time to throw away,

Question: What needs to be cherished and what needs to be purged?

⁷ a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,

Question: What needs to be said and what needs to be swallowed?

⁸ a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

⁹What do workers gain from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. ¹¹He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

A modern application for those called to "eternity" not "temporary" - there is....

A time to move in

A time to move on

Next Steps

- Study Ecclesiastes chapter 4 using the PROAPT Bible Study method.
 Guide sheets are available in the Commons today.
- If there's truly a time for everything, summer may be your season to serve in CTK Kids. Consider sharing 90 minutes of your life with kids – whether that's just once in the next few months, a few times, or every week. See details on today's program insert.

Small Group Questions

- 1) What's your favorite season? Why?
- 2) Which season(s) listed in Ecclesiastes 3 are your currently living in? What are you learning?
- 3) Where do you need to build a fortress in your heart? Where do you need to tear down an old monument of shame/failure?
- 4) Read the passage once again. Which contrast is speaking to your heart right now? What is God specifically calling you to do about that season? What decision do you need to make today to be obedient to God's call on your life in this moment?
- 5) What has God done in your life that took time to become beautiful? What happened over the course of that transformation?
- 6) What do you need prayer for today?