

***A Time For Everything***

***Ecclesiastes 3:1-13***

**EXPLORING THE SERMON**

- \* What did you hear?
- \* What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- \* What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

**KEY VERSES**

*For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:*

*<sup>2</sup> a time to be born and a time to die;*

*a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;*

*<sup>3</sup> a time to kill and a time to heal;*

*a time to break down and a time to build up;*

*<sup>4</sup> a time to weep and a time to laugh;*

*a time to mourn and a time to dance;*

*<sup>5</sup> a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;*

*a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;*

*<sup>6</sup> a time to seek and a time to lose;*

*a time to keep and a time to throw away;*

*<sup>7</sup> a time to tear and a time to sew;*

*a time to keep silent and a time to speak;*

*<sup>8</sup> a time to love and a time to hate;*

*a time for war and a time for peace.*

*What gain have the workers from their toil? <sup>10</sup> I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. <sup>11</sup> He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.*

**REFLECTION**

Believed to be the words of King Solomon as he set out to search for the meaning of life, this passage reminds us of the contradictory experiences that span the gamut of the human experience. **As you look at this list of feelings and experiences, in what season do you currently find yourself? Who is walking with you during this time?**

The seasons of life can confound us, and our human souls long for meaning as we endure especially the tougher chapters (v. 11). The passage encourages us to live with wisdom even when we don't always understand God's ways. We tend to live situationally but God calls us to live sovereignly. **How can you "zoom in to zoom out"? What is God doing right now that can help you see the bigger picture?** (restored relationships, presence of joy amidst a trial, saying yes to something)

*This week, may we enjoy each day as a gift from God, and embrace the mystery of the seasons and God's work in them.*