

Week 22
151/214

Transforming Daily
“... to everything there is a season ...”
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Summer break from school is upon us once again. For the next ten to twelve weeks we will be negotiating ourselves through this new season. Talking to one parent about the summer break she said that what starting the school year was for her is what ending the school year is for her daughter. The mother was, then, just as excited when the school year began as the daughter is, now, that the school year was over. While watching her daughter dart all over the gym, skipping and jumping, the mother said she wore the same face nine months ago on the first day of school that her daughter was wearing on the last day of school. There was this look on the mother's face that said, “How am I going to get through the next ten to twelve weeks?” But you know she will, and she knows she will.

It is the unknown about the changing seasons that threatens our confidence. Even if we have faced similar seasons or watched others go through seasons that we are yet to experience, it doesn't seem to relieve the angst that is sometimes associated with each successive season. Solomon came to this realization the hard way. After facing the seasons of life with every human emotion and resource, Solomon came to the conclusion that man was to “fear God and keep His commandments” (Eccl.12:13).

“Fear,” used here in chapter twelve, means reverence and respect. In order for believers to successfully manage life's seasons, we must prepare for them according to God's plan and purpose for our lives. Doing so doesn't always mean that we will understand the outcome or even the process, but our confidence will rest in the strength of the Lord.

Invariably when children return back to school after the season of summer break, we “ooh” and “awe” over how tall they have gotten, or how mature they look, or over some other striking physical feature. Usually I retort, “Yep, that's what happens when you feed 'em.” But actually it is that to everything there is a season.