

Seasons Bring Change



One of the reasons I have chosen to stay in the northwest for all of my life is because of the beautiful outdoor seasons that provide me and the family with many opportunities for refreshment and enjoyment. One season begins as another ends and so the cycle goes. Seasons, in a sense, outline our lives and provide a context of life's many stages as seen in the birth, death and renewal cycle. Has been and always will be as the saying goes.

The writer of the Old Testament book Ecclesiastes had a great many things to say about seasons. For instance, in chapter 3 of the book he writes; "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven". He went on to write that there is a time to; be born, to die, to plant, to kill, to heal, to break down, to build up, to weep, to mourn, to laugh, to dance, to love, to hate, to have war and a time for peace. A very inclusive list of what goes on under the sun! And now that summer is slowly and sadly coming to an end, a time for fall is looming in the next month ahead. And we know that there is now a time for school as school supply advertisements flood the media sources, a time to end vacations, a time to focus more on careers, a time to plan for fund raisers such as the Evening of Stories that Genesis sponsors every October, and on it goes.

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I suspect that parents of children are now eagerly anticipating the return of school days after a long summer of trying to keep their kids from being too bored? The task of raising kids never seems to have a seasons end as we worry and fret over them for a lifetime. The type and duration of seasons with them change, and our responsibility as parents is to understand that our seasons change as theirs do. The lengthy season for a parent is one of staying aware of our story and how it is influencing our children as we go through life together.

Genesis will be offering a 12-week Courageous Parenting class on September 27th here at the Genesis office. This class is designed to support parents of adolescents as their teens go through the many ups and downs of those difficult years. If interested please contact the Genesis office at 467-7913 or view the web site for more information. The class will be a season of learning.

Dennis