

Life Group Notes
Seasons of change / Transitions
12th July 2015

Welcome –Research shows that moving house, getting married and changing jobs are amongst some of the most stressful times in life. What times of change and transition have you gone through in life that have gone well, or not so well? Are there any funny stories about these times?

Word – We're considering how life is full of different transitions (changes) that require changes within us (internally) and around us (externally) and how God is faithful throughout all these times. We can experience opportunities for growth and increased maturity as we go through these phases.

Read the following verses from **Ecclesiastes C3 V 1-8**.

- V1 what do you think is meant by the phrase “there is an appointed time for everything (in life “)?
- Are there any verses that stand out to you as being very relevant to your current season in life?
- V2 Can you look back over your life and say when you have experienced new beginnings (a time to give birth) or started new projects (a time to plant). How does this feel as opposed to when things end or are stopped (a time to uproot)?
- V 4 We all go through times of loss (mourning) and times of joy (dancing), can you think of either time and reflect on how you experienced God’s care and faithfulness to you?
- V7 “A time to be silent and a time to speak.” Have there been times in your life when you have felt it a good thing to speak out for or against certain issues? Or have you felt the wise thing to do was to keep silent? What have you learnt as you have gone through these experiences?
- V8 what do you think the verse means; “A time to love and a time to hate”?

Ecclesiastes C3 V 1-8 enables us to see that the season we are in often changes and what is the right thing to do in one season, is not in another season. Different seasons in life present different opportunities and challenges.

Worship – Spend some time thanking God for His provision of the different seasons in our lives and for His faithfulness within these different seasons.

Works - spend a few minutes discussing some life changes /transitions that you or people you know are going through and need help with (children moving school, young people moving into work/university, people facing retirement, job or health changes).Pray for these people in groups of 2/3.

- Pray for the Holiday Bible Club this summer that more unchurched families are reached.
- Pray for Soul Survivor this summer that the young people deepen their faith.