Embracing Your Season

The story of my last season.

Kris Valloton – says the following

"There is enough grace today to get done, everything that needs to be done"

He goes on to pray the following – Father we ask that in our daily lives, that we would not be anxious or overwhelmed by anything. But that we would find <u>YOU</u> in our season of life that we are in at the moment and align ourselves with the grace of that season.

One thing that I have learnt and that God has highlighted to me is that **our positioning** during a season will always determine the outcome:

- Position yourself under God and His grace or blame Him and move yourself out of His presence – the choice rests with us God doesn't move, we do!!!
- An outcome with God will always have victory as opposed to an outcome without Him.
- Bill Johnson says the following two quotes that have really resonated with me:
- 1. "Faith doesn't deny a problems existence. It denies it a place of influence."

In every season we have two choices either we embrace the season that God has placed us in or we moan and complain about it – Bill Johnson says the following about complaining:

2. "Complaining proves nothing but that you can hear the voice of the devil."

Let's turn to the Word of God:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

1. God appoints the times and seasons

God's timing is always perfect

These words are for every person, in every place, in every circumstance – God has appointed the times and seasons, the happy and sad, the easy and the difficult.

This should bring you HOPE because God is in control

God always has a purpose in what He does, even if we have a hard time understanding what that purpose is – Romans 8:28 "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

2. We live in a world of change (We have to embrace change)

The evidence of change is all around us -

Spring becomes summer, summer becomes fall, fall becomes winter, and winter becomes spring.

The young become aged and the new becomes old.

Times change – do you know change is good?

We as Christians go through some of the greatest changes – first we are blind, dead sinners. Then we are made alive, then we discover more of our sinfulness and God continues to change our hearts, as He wants to make our hearts more like His. This change is good it stretches you and challengers you by causing you to grow through the trials and tribulations and seasons of life.

Change keeps you from getting board.

Question – are you the same person that you were 10 years ago? 5 years ago? One year ago? – I know some of us outwardly have changed – but I am talking about inwardly, your walk with – spiritually speaking

God does not change and his promises are true & trustworthy

Imagine what it would be like if God changed on us.

What if one day He was Nice and the other day mean, one day loving you the other hating you, what if God altered between merciful and judgemental?

I thank God that He is unchangeable, you can count on Him, and He will never leave you or forsake you. He won't change His mind about you – He loves you.

3. God has set everything for its time – enjoy yourself, live life to the full

Make the best of each season – everything has its purpose.

Bill Johnson says the following, "The best thing this world can get is you being you, with God all over you!"

God has "set eternity in the hearts of men" this means we can never be completely satisfied with earthly pleasures & pursuits, because we are created in His image:

- We all have a spiritual thirst
- We all have eternal value
- Nothing but the eternal God can truly satisfy us.

He knows the beginning from the end – He has you where He wants you.

Top 10 things you don't have to worry about, they will not change as the seasons do:

- The Bible will still have the answers
- Prayer will still work
- The Holy Spirit will still move
- God will still inhabit the praises of His people
- There will still be anointed preaching in the house of God
- There will still be singing of praises to Him
- God will still pour out blessings on His people
- There is always room at His cross
- Jesus loves you
- Jesus still saves

Bill Johnson says the following about every season in your life, "that if you don't seek God in crisis, you won't seek Him in success either."

God is in control of all seasons -

Read – Daniel 2:19-23 "During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision, then Daniel praised the God of heaven and said, "Praise be to the name of God forever and ever, wisdom & power are His. <u>He changes times and seasons; He sets up kings and deposes</u> <u>them. He gives wisdom to the wise & knowledge to the discerning.</u> He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what lies in darkness & light dwells with him. I thank & praise you, o God of my fathers, you have given me wisdom & power, you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king."

Then Daniel goes on to interpret the dream to Nebuchadnezzar.

MB verse is verse 21

- God is the only one that can change times and seasons He ordains them
- I am sure we have all being asked when are evil leaders season coming to an end? When we see evil leaders who live long and good leaders who die young, we may wonder if God controls world events. God governs the world according to His purposes. We may all be dismayed when we see evil people prosper, but rest assured God is in complete control, "God sets up kings and deposes them." Romans 13:1 "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."

- This knowledge should give you confidence and peace no matter what happens in every season.
- God gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning we can all access wisdom and knowledge from God, and He can help us to be wise and discerning in all seasons – business men say <u>that's what I am talking about!!!</u>
- James 1:5 "if any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."
- 1 Kings 4:29 "God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore."

I believe God is taking us as a body into a season of great favour and a season of us being used as a catalyst to bring many people to salvation – to confirm this God took me to the following passage of scripture, 2 Corinthians 6:2 "<u>In the time of my favour I heard you,</u> and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation.