God's Timing, Purpose, Justice & Human Frailty
Ecclesiastes 3

As you reflect on God's timing, what are some helpful ways to embrace Him even when we don't understand it?

*Accept that God sees the w____ picture. *Pray honestly

*Focus on O_____ instead of O_____.

*Remember God's faithfulness in p_____ seasons.

*Resist the temptation to force doors open.

*Learn contentment in the present season.

*Remember that d_____ is not d_____.

"The LORD answered me: Write down this vision; clearly inscribe it on tablets so one may easily read it. For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it testifies about the end and will not lie. Though it delays, wait for it, since it will certainly come and not be late."- Habakkuk 2:2-3

● Cod's Timing, Purpose, Justice & Human Frailty

❖ God's Timing

1-8 There is an occasion for everything, and a time for every activity under heaven: a time to give birth and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to tear down and a time to build; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to throw stones and a time to gather stones; a time to embrace and a time to avoid embracing; a time to search and a time to count as lost; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear and a time to sew; a time to be silent and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.

What is King Solomon pointing out about God's timing?

 Life is made up of d_____ seasons. Daniel 2:21

Notice the 14 pairs and examples, what do they all have in common?

 They show a full range of h_____ experiences. Ephesians 1:11

As you reflect on the different times and experiences in life, what are some lessons we can learn from each?

*Instead of f_____ God, trust Him to provide the grace to understand and endure.

*Life is a g____ from God *Growth requires p_____ & patience

*God is sovereign in ending life and restoring life

*God develops c_____ before success *Enjoy God's blessings

*Grief is part of h_____ *Faith grows in adversity *Stay humble and g_____

*Earthly things are temporary *Listen more carefully

*God n_____ changes when life does

"In the good seasons, learn gratitude. In the hard seasons, learn trust. In the waiting seasons, learn patience. In every season, learn God is faithful."

❖ **God's Purpose**

9-15 What does the worker gain from his struggles? I have seen the task that God has given the children of Adam to keep them occupied. He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also put eternity in their hearts, but no one can discover the work God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and enjoy the good life. It is also the gift of God whenever anyone eats, drinks, and enjoys all his efforts. I know that everything God does will last forever; there is no adding to it or taking from it. God works so that people will be in awe of him. Whatever is, has already been, and whatever will be, already is. However, God seeks justice for the persecuted.

What is King Solomon teaching about God's purpose?

 God is s_____ over everything. Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Isaiah 46:9-10

✔ *Human labor cannot control God's purpose: 9-10*

How can you encourage someone who is trying to find satisfaction in their work apart from God?

*God is the one who gave us the ability and o_____ to work. Deut. 8:18; 1 Chronicles 29:12

*Our Work becomes meaningful when it is o_____ to God. Col. 3:23

✔ *God sees the beginning and the end: 11*

Why is it important for people to know and understand that God made us for His eternal purpose?

*It gives m_____ to life *It protects us from making lesser things our p_____

*It helps us understand life's difficult seasons. Isaiah 41:4; Rev. 22:13

*It provides h____ beyond this life.

"When we know God has an eternal purpose, we can trust Him no matter what."

How should we go about living in light of this? (12-13)

*Enjoying l____ and do g____ as long as you live *Embrace the g____ of life

Why?

✔ *God works all things according to His purpose: 14-15*

What should our response be to the God who works all things according to His purpose?

*Reverence *T____ *S_____ *Worship

*Find contentment in His providence

 Psalm 31:15; Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 8:28

What is one thing you have learned that you are willing to share with someone else?

"Contentment comes from knowing that God has not made a mistake with your season."