

# SEASONS OF LIFE

KAREN MONROY

In the Philippines, using temperature and rainfall as a basis, the climate is divided into two major seasons: rainy and dry. For the past couple of weeks, we have been literally experiencing these two - the sun may be up brightly in the morning and then by noontime or later in the afternoon, there may come a sudden rainfall. Seasons, indeed, come and go whether we like it or not.

This is something that is true not only when talking about the weather but also when it comes to life. We have and will continue to experience different seasons in life. This was the reminder that the Lord placed in my heart as I sat and reflected quietly on this familiar passage found in Ecclesiastes 3.

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:*

<sup>2</sup> *a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;*

<sup>3</sup> *a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;*

<sup>4</sup> *a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;*

<sup>5</sup> *a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;*

<sup>6</sup> *a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;*

<sup>7</sup> *a time to tear, and a time to sew;*

*a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;*

<sup>8</sup> *a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace."*

For everything there is a season, a time for everything. This passage shows us the reality of life, that there is an appropriate occasion for every human event. It shows us two sides of every story, a contrast as seen in the series of positive and negative events written. Our life is not all about the good things that we experience but it is also not all about the bad. This is the reason why we hear of people describing life as like a roller coaster, full of ups and downs, twists and turns. It can be scary, but it can also be fun. However, at the end of the day, just like the roller coaster ride, one will not always remain on top or at the bottom. Our seasons will change and this is something that we have to accept and embrace.

As we experience different seasons in life, allow me to share with you three (3) things the Lord has reminded me that helped me appreciate the current season that I am in.

First, ***the Lord is with me in every season.*** This should be our confidence. No matter where you are and what you are experiencing, the Lord is with you! He is not only with you when you experience triumph, but even in defeat. Amid the challenges and struggles that you experience, He is and will continue to be with you! He will

never leave you nor forsake you, no matter what the season you are in.

Second, ***in God, no season is put to waste.*** There will be times wherein the season you are in may not make sense. Or, it can be so challenging that you do not see or understand the good and the purpose of it. But as we remember that the Lord is with us in every season, may you also remember that He is at work. With God, no season is put to waste because in every season, He is not only with you but He is working something in or for you!

Lastly, ***the Lord makes things beautiful in His perfect time and ways.*** As we go through various seasons in life, whether it be good or bad, know that the Lord is sovereign. He is in control! He can make all things beautiful, although not necessarily according to your own idea of beauty, but according to His. He also has his own perfect time and perfect ways. After all, He is God, and we are not. He knows exactly what is best for you and me.

In all these, it is my prayer that we will choose to ***trust God in every season of our life.*** Whatever season we may be in right now, may we put our faith, hope, and dependence on God who knows, cares, and loves us so much! ✱