



the View from the hill

focusing on the life and ministries of Cypress Community Church

From the Desk of Pastor Jim.....

Growing in the Seasons of Life

Last Sunday, we began a new series entitled, "Growing in the Seasons of Life." During the month of February, Dr. Darryl DelHousaye, Andy Mandon, and I will be focusing on several seasons of life we all face at one time or another.

When God created the earth, He set up seasons of weather. In Genesis 2:22 God said, "As long as the earth remains, there will be springtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night." God also established seasons of human activity and experiences -- physical, emotional, relational, and spiritual seasons of life. King Solomon wrote, "There is a time for everything; and a season for every activity under heaven." The New Century Version says, "Everything on earth has its special season." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

King Solomon observed that life is a combination of contrasting seasons as he listed 14 word-pairings...28 different life experiences at opposite ends of the spectrum. His list was never intended to be an exhaustive one; rather a representation of the dozens of different seasons we will experience in life. See Ecclesiastes 3:2-8

"There is a time to ... "

be born/die	weep/laugh	search/give up	be silent/speak
plant/uproot	mourn/dance	keep/throw away	love/hate
kill/heal	scatter/gather	tear/mend	war/peace
tear down/build up	embrace/refrain		

Some of the seasons we experience include the season of prosperity ... the season of financial stress ... the season of waiting ... parenting ... giving ... forgiving ... waiting ... loss ... loneliness ... failure ... self doubt ... recovery ... renewal ... and more.

God doesn't plan bad stuff to happen to us. He does promise that "He can make everything beautiful in His time." (Ecclesiastes 3:11). He promises to draw good out of each season of our life IF we will trust Him. No matter how dark...how shameful... how bad...and even how guilty we might be...IF we will give Him all the pieces, He will use every season of life to change us into the likeness of His Son; AND He will use us to help and serve others passing through similar seasons of life. (Romans 8:28-29).

how to contact us

Cypress Community Church

681 Monterey Highway
Salinas CA 93908
831- 484-2141

Church Website:
www.cypresschurch.org

Rev. Jim Coulter
Executive Pastor
jcoulter@cypresschurch.org

all staff e-mail addressed to
first initial and last name
@cypresschurch.org

Secretary: Mariruth Coffin
Accounting: Cathy Greenfield
Student Ministry: Andy Mandon
Preschool Ministry: Jean Sidor
Elementary Grades
Ministry: Lottie Salerno
Music Ministry: Ann Schultz
Sound Manager: Otto Pauls
Media: Lori Mandon

Church FAX: 831-484-5065

sunday services:

Classic...8:30 a.m.
Bible classes...9:45 a.m.
Casual...10:45 a.m.