

In Due Season

(Let's read this together) **Galatians 6:9** Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

I. Sometimes being a Christian is like being a little kid.

A. Kid asks, "Mom can we go to park?" Mom answers, "We'll see." Not really a yes or no (usually no).

B. We ask God, "How long until X happens?" God answers, "In due season."

1. Is that a week, a month, a year?

2. Can you be a little more specific?

C. Let's read "in due season" in another scripture:

Psalms 145:15 The eyes of all look to you and you give them their food in due season (or at the proper time).

1. This means **at a time that is natural and fitting, just when you would expect it to happen.**

2. God will provide them with food in harvest season.

D. A season is a period of the time marked by something specific.

1. Like climate: seasons of the year (fall, winter, spring & summer).

2. We talk about going through dark, difficult seasons of life (and we can all relate to this).

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 describes many of these seasons.

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

2 a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

3 a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

5 a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;

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

8 a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

3. God is Lord of all of life's seasons?

In our scripture **Galatians 6:9** “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up,”

II. The hurdles here is **growing weary of doing good to the point of giving up.**

A. This assumes we are trying to **do good or live godly.**

1. How many here are...never mind, I won't ask that question, publicly.

2. It is a fair question to ask ourselves, though. Does living righteously matter?

3. When we can't answer “**why**” **we do what we do** it's easy to just say “what's the point?”

4. We can go with the flow & clean it up for Sunday so no one knows how much I cuss (or fill in the blank).

B. So let's assume we all are trying to live a godly life, but man it can get downright tiring, oh wait, there's a scripture for that:

Galatians 6:9 Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up.

C. He's not saying it's wrong to grow weary, but **don't grow weary to the point of giving up.**

1. He knows there is a physical toll to life's difficulties.
2. God is just offering a new perspective.
3. He says balance your perspective on how hard things are by remembering that in due season (at just the right time) we will reap (a harvest NIV).

D. Reap means to be rewarded because of the fruits of our labor or receive the consequences (in this case positive ones, as we normally think of consequences as negative or bad) or benefits.

1. So in short, the point here is **not giving up**, even though I am sooo tired and could really use a personal day. (Funny how sick days are now just personal days to cope with life, work, people, etc...)

2. The key to not giving up is to maintain a better outlook on our circumstances (which can actually save your life, or at least did for Coolidge Winesett).

Coolidge Winesett, a retired 75-year-old man from Virginia, had no indoor plumbing. One day while using the outhouse (outdoor toilet), he fell through the floor because the wood was rotten. He was unable to pull himself out because he only had one leg (the other had been amputated) and only one arm worked because he'd recently had a stroke. For 3 days he survived with no food, water or sleep in waist-deep human sewage, breathing the poisonous fumes and being bit by rats.

Finally, the mailman who heard his faint cries for help rescued him on the 3rd day.

III. Coolidge made the best of a crappy situation (literally). Where do we find our courage to overcome?

A. Is it just a matter of the ying finally balancing the yang?

1. Most people believe in good fortune hoping their lucky break is just around the corner.
2. Lottery sales flourish the most in cities with the poorest people
3. Yet a simple savings account over time will yield thousands more dollars scratcher wins.

B. As Christians, our hope does not rest in inanimate objects or good luck, but in a living God.

1. A God who has our best interests in mind.
2. He is actually pulling for us and encouraging us all along the way, this scripture is God's cheer.

Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up!

C. Last week Shaun preached about fighting the fight of faith.

1. He said we can pursue after godliness and righteousness out of duty or delight.

2. This is also all about the outlook or perspective we choose to adopt.

3. When we obey out of a sense of duty usually it's because someone has authority over us.

4. Our commander (military), boss (work), teacher (school) or wife (marriage).

5. Often we have no other choice (or the options are worse than just doing our duty.)

D. When God tells us to obey, no matter how hard it is, it's really His loving-kindness in action.

1. God's commands are black & white, or more specifically, light and dark.

2. God's desires is to maintain unbroken fellowship with us (to be in relationship).

3. This is His answer to the "why we do what we do" question.

4. Sin separates us from God, interrupts our fellowship.

5. Jesus solved the sin or separation from God problem.

6. When we accept what Jesus did on our behalf, we are applying the antidote to the poison of sin.

7. Unresolved sin would eventually kill us and cut us off for eternity from a relationship with God.

E. God is black & white because sin is darkness and He is light, and He cannot dwell in darkness.

1. Our daily struggle (that makes us so weary) is the fight against the forces in this world that want to drag us down into the darkness so we no longer relate to God.

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

2. In the end we are fighting to preserve our relationship with God.

3. God empowers us to overcome.

1 John 4:4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1 John 5:4-5 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

F. We overcome through our faith, our faith in God's word and His promises to us.

Psalm 145:15 The eyes of all look to you (amp: in hopeful expectation), and you give them their food in due season (or at the proper time).

1. This hopeful expectation is faith in God's promises coming to past.

2. God will come through for us at just the right time.

IV. There are three things about God that allow our faith to flourish.

A. God is able, God is trustworthy and God is for us.

1. God's abilities are not in question.

Daniel (interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream) **2:20-23**

20 Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. 21 He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; 22 he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him. 23 To you, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for you have given me wisdom and might, and have now made known to me what we asked of you. for you have made known to us the king's matter."

2. God is trustworthy. He will do what He promised.

Psalm 9:10 Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.

3. God is for us. He will do what is best for us, in the time that is best for us.

a. God tells us “in due season” and not it will happen at 10:30pm on October 7th because this would be our focus.

b. This knowledge would be disastrous; it would interfere with our relationship with Him.

B. Any Trekkies (Star Trek fans) in here? In Star Trek they were given a prime directive.

1. God’s prime directive is to safeguard our relationship with Him.

2. We should ask ourself, “Is what I’m doing helping or hindering my ability to relate to God?” (WWJD no IWIDHOHMATRTG).

3. Answering this will help us understand God’s heart for us and why we are struggling.

4. The enemy has set his sights on destruction not just dissension

C. God is willing to compromise our comfort if it preserves or enhances our ability to relate to Him.

1. Not every struggle we have is against darkness, sometimes we wrestle with God.
2. God's love for us is stubborn and strong because He is unwilling to let anything interfere with our relationship with Him.
3. God's love guard's our fellowship jealously.
4. This love is hard to see when we are struggling & growing tired, but is why God cheers:

Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up!