

IN HIS TIME

(Ecclesiastes 3:1-15)

- I. There is a _____ for everything (1-8).
 1. Every event has a _____ time.
 2. Every event has a _____ of time.
 3. Every event is part of God's _____ plan.
- II. There is a _____ behind everything (9-11).
 1. We are not in _____.
 2. God makes everything _____ in its time.
 3. God has set _____ in our hearts.
- III. There is a _____ to everything (12-15).
 1. Offer _____ to the Lord no matter what.
 2. Give _____ for God's good gifts.
 3. Allow the circumstances of life to _____ you to fear the Lord.

BOTTOM LINE: God is working His _____ plan through _____ circumstances.

Group Discussion Questions

(Read the passage together as a group before discussing the questions)

1. How do you view 3:1-8? Do you see it as encouraging or discouraging? Is it descriptive or prescriptive, that is, does it describe how things are or prescribe how things should be? Does it give justification for things like war, hatred, and killing or is it acknowledging the reality of these things in the course of life?
2. Have you ever felt that the work you do is devoid of meaning? Do verses 9-11 reinforce that feeling or give you a different perspective?
3. What does it mean that God has set eternity in our hearts? How does this help us to make sense of things that make no sense to us under the sun?
4. In verses 12-14 what, in particular, is helpful to you in maintaining sanity in the midst of vanity? Is there a particular response that you need to work on?
5. What stood out to you from the text or message that you would like to explore further? What will you do to apply this message this week?