

## "EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE, ALL IN ITS OWN TIME"

Silence, stillness, and centering before God (2-5 minutes)



### SCRIPTURE / ECCLESIASTES 3:1-4

**1** *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: **2** a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, **3** a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, **4** a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance*



### DEVOTION BY PASTOR JUSTIN MASUDA

Ecclesiastes is always an interesting book to study as we see the mind-journey of one man wrestling with the "meaninglessness" of life. During his own reflection, he comes to terms with the fact that everything happens in its own time and we have to face the reality that, whatever season we are in, it is a part of life. In the end, the only option that gives us hope is to trust God; truly trust Him with everything we may go through, everything we feel, everything we experience, and trust that He cares for us in good times and in bad.

We can sometimes live out our relationship with God as if He is a friend on Facebook scrolling through His feed. We act as though He might be just as annoyed as we are when someone does nothing but complain, or maybe we think He gets cynical like we do when someone is only sharing the "highlight reel" of their lives. Sometimes we don't get honest with God - in celebration and in struggle - because we feel like He's "over it" or maybe it's a little "too unfiltered" to bring to Him. "It's just the way it is...so why would God care?"

The fact is that He does care and wants us to feel and wrestle in His presence. The author of Ecclesiastes completely unravels in a rant about the meaninglessness of life and God doesn't strike Him down for it or run away from it. Through his wrestling, he comes to terms with the greatness of God and, in

fact, feels closer to Him. When we can be unfiltered before our Creator, we can step into the closeness that He desires with us because we hide nothing from Him. It's where a real relationship is found.



### REFLECT

Think deeply, process, and talk to the Lord (2-5 minutes)

- Have you ever ranted to God? Try it. Go on an unfiltered rant about whatever is on your heart.
- After you have ranted, sit in His presence. He may speak, He may not. But know that He is with you in the noise and in the silence.