

FAMILY SEASONS, PART 3

Outline #3 Preparing for Change

Praise Him in the Heights (Psalm 148:1-4)

1. Learning from the failures of others

- a) How did the majority of the children of Israel deal with the change of liberation from Egypt?
 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-10
- b) Matthew 26:31–35 What was Peter's big mistake?
- c) Acts 5:1–10 What mistakes did Ananias and Saphira make and why were their mistakes fatal?
- d) Why is it important that we learn from the failures of others? 1 Corinthians 10:11–13

2. Preparing for marriage

- a) What are some examples of healthy marriages recorded in the Scriptures?
- b) What are some essential preparations for a healthy marriage?
- c) What character traits should be avoided? Proverbs 22:24–25, 27:15–16, 3:14–15
- d) What counsel would you give to a friend who is struggling with loneliness but afraid to make a marriage commitment?
- e) What are the benefits of asking a couple with a healthy marriage to become your mentors?
- f) Who has helped you both to prepare for and to maintain a healthy marriage?

3. Preparing for parenting

a) What lessons can we learn from Hannah about preparation for parenting? 1 Samuel 1:8–11, 20–28

- b) What lessons can we learn from the mistakes of Jacob as a parent? Genesis 37:3–4
- c) How can parenting stories in the Bible help us to prepare for the challenges we will face as parents?

4. Preparing for old age

- a) Why is it important to recognize the brevity of life on this sinful planet? Psalm 90:10, 12
- b) What anxiety or fear might a person experience when facing old age? Psalm 71:9
- c) What promises from God's Word might bring comfort and assurance to those who are preparing for the uncertainties of old age? Hebrews 13:5; John 10:27–28, etc.
- d) What are some benefits of old age?

5. Preparing for death

- a) 1 Corinthians 15:20–26 Why does the Christian not need to fear death? (also 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)
- b) What are some important ways a person can prepare for death? Luke 23:46; 1 Kings 2:1–4,
- c) Share the story of someone who faced death unafraid. How does that person's witness inspire you to face life or death without fear?

