

# DOES THE BIBLE REALLY SAY...

**“This Too Shall Pass”**

**“Embracing the Moment with Endurance”**  
**May 3, 2020**

*“There is an occasion for everything, and a time for every activity under the heaven...” ~ Ecclesiastes 3:1*

## **Acknowledge Our Time-Sensitive Nature**

In the Book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon shares great wisdom regarding the experience of time. He highlights that each experience has, you might say, a counter experience. Spend a few moments reading Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, pausing after each time dyad to match it with moments in your own life.

Stages or phases of life do not last. Reflecting on your own experiences, what did God teach you or how did He grow you by the passing through of these moments? Note a few lessons or transformations; and share, if you are in a group.

## **Identifying Our True Hope**

While **“this too shall pass”** carries a lot of truth, it also creates faulty hope. A hope that time heals all; which we know isn't true. A hope that suffering will be removed; again, which we know isn't true.

Recognizing this faulty hope, we turn to Scripture to see the hope that Jesus brings. A hope that transcends every moment of our lives.

Read through Romans 5:1-5 for a fantastic boost of faith in the face of struggle.

- When in your life have you journeyed this path of transformative power that Paul is writing about?
- In those moments, did you hope it would pass by more quickly? How long did it take you to see what God was producing within you through that experience?
- Looking back, what can you learn from your previous experience that you might apply to this current season of your life?

## **Embracing with Endurance**

With the wisdom of Solomon and the boldness of Paul both fresh on our minds, God opens us to the value in every moment. No matter how wonderful or painful, God is present with His love. He is at work for our good.

- What is He perhaps calling you to embrace for this time instead of wanting distance from?
- Are there areas of life where you are feeling hopeless or powerless? Maybe the thought of embracing this moment sounds daunting. Identify them. Name them. And turn to Christ for the endurance to press on in faith.
- As you recognize these opportunities, find encouragement in the words of Jesus in John 16:33 and Matthew 28:19-20.

While time continues to pass by, we cling to Christ who gives us strength and purpose in this moment. May we embrace this day, whatever it might hold, knowing that “this is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).