

**Faith life Weekly Tuesday 11/3/09** (A little bit behind with this)

**Reflection:**

I have been thinking about "Seasons". One of the best parts of living in the Midwest is the turning of the seasons. The full experience of each season, Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring. Now some of the time we bemoan the length of a particular season. When the days get colder, for example, we look forward to the Spring of the year or even long for the hot days of Summer. In the dead heat of Summer, as another example, we long for the cooler days of Fall. With Fall comes the turning of the colors on the trees. It's wonderful. As kids we used to rake leaves with our father and then the city allowed us to burn them at the curb. This is unbelievable today. But it was an every neighbor activity. The smoke filled the air. It was a wonderful smoke because so many families were out working together. Before we took the to the curb each of us kids took our turn jumping in the leaves. The cool air of Fall also meant that we could dig our jackets out of the closet. Winter came upon us with a chill of course but each Winter we shared time with sleds, mittens, and snowmen. We loved winter. Spring meant planting things. Summer meant trips with the family and swimming pools. Whoo! Whoo!

What are your memories of the seasons? How have the seasons of life impacted you?

The scripture reminds us that for everything there is a season.

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven; A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what has been planted; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep silence and a time to speak; a time for war and a time for peace." – Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

We can also think of the seasons, the ages of our lives: Childhood, Young Adulthood – venturing out on our own, The age of Parenting and of putting food on the table for our children, Mid Life and reassessing the value of our life, and Retirement. We can also relate to the seasons that we know as trouble and celebration, struggle and accomplishment. Thank God, Praise God, for the many seasons of this life.

Take some time to frolic in the season of Fall. Give God the credit for the joy that you know.

**Song:**

*"Your Love is life to me"*, by the group FFH

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbqqPkOrTBM>

*Your love is life to me my truest longing my deepest need without it  
one moment I dont know where Id be your love is life to me*

*Bread for my body light for my eyes all that I need u daily provide  
deep in my being more than my blood my very existence depends  
on your love*

*Your love is life to me my truest longing my deepest need yeah without it  
one moment I don't know where Id be your love is life to me*

*moment by moment I am aware of your tender mercies and your  
constant care my hope and my strength thru all of my days I see  
so clearly in so many ways*

*Your love is life to me  
my truest longing my deepest need yeah  
without it one moment  
I don't know where I'd be  
your love is life to me*

*your love is a river flowing to the sea and the river runs forever  
and washes over me*

*Your love is life to me*

*my truest longing my deepest need yeah  
without it one moment  
I don't know where I'd be  
your love is life to me  
(repeat)*

**Prayer:**

For all that is good and plentiful, Lord. Hooray! We give you thanks.

For leaves for frolicking, for leaves for burning, for leaves turned in the pages of our book of life, Lord, Hooray! We give you thanks.

For all the seasons of life, for turmoil and surprise, for rich, for poor, for sadness and for joy, for twists and for turns, for storms and for cloud, for rainbow and for clear blue sky, for leaves turning, for lives turning, for each stage, for each new generation, for each old generation, for life that is life, for life that is light filled, for life that is lightness, Lord, Hooray! We give you thanks!

For each new season, Lord, Hooray! We give you thanks.

May we welcome each page, each twist and turn, each stage, each moment, each leaf, each color that awakens us to your likeness. Amen.

**R.F.**