**CHANGING SEASONS**

**Joshua 1:1-6**

9-30-2018 Pastoral Meeting – Mark Jobe

**ILLUS: Marissa just got married**, feel like it was the end of a chapter and beginning of a different season. Business man approached me and ask if I could give him some pointers and raising a daughter like that. Talked about seasons.

**ILLUS: Peter and Marriette Stott** a different season. Easy to look back at the old season and compare.

***Each season has its BEAUTY and its BURDEN***

God is always getting us ready for something. This season is a preparation for the next season. The next season will be different and bring about its own set of challenges.

**Life is one continuous cycle of seasons.** Every season builds on the previous one, but gives you a new start. Galatians 6:7 A person sows what they reap.

**MISTAKES when it comes to Seasons:**

**Hanging on too long:** Forcing a season to stay when it has already left.

**Living in the future:** Focusing so much on the future that you cannot enjoy the present.

**Living in the Past:** Hanging on to the past in a way that does not let you advance

**Comparing seasons:** Forcing you new season to compete with other seasons and living discontent.

**Joshua 1:1-6** *After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide:****2****“Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites.****3****I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.****4****Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west.****5****No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.****6****Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.*

**PHASES IN CHANGING SEASONS:**

1. **The Mourning/Releasing Phase:** Moses is dead.

*After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide:****2****“Moses my servant is dead.*

For a new season to come an old season has to die. Typically there will be a mourning and feeling of loss related to the old season.

**Think about it:** Plagues, Red Sea, Mana, 10 Commandments, Earth opening up- dramatic. The cloud at the tent of meeting. Rebellion squelched.

These are formative years, supernatural years.

1. **The Preparation Phase:** Get ready to cross. Looking forward instead of back.

*Now then, you and all these people, get ready….*

Now leadership and people get ready (prepare yourself) to leave the old and embrace a new season.

1. **The Crossing Phase:**

*….. to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites.*

Get ready to leave behind and cross over to a different territory.

Even when it’s a season you have prayed for and prepared for it is still not easy to accept and adjust to.

1. **The Vision Phase**

*I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.****4****Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west*

Moving forward but differently.

Taking something you have never taken or tasted before.

1. **The Confidence Phase**

*As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.*

In transitions to new seasons leaders need reassurance that the new is accompanied with the old power.

Continuation of presence in the midst of great change.

1. **The Action Phase**

***6****Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.*

The attitude because you will lead people to take the land.