

## Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of May 10, 2015

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

### New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- <sup>2</sup> a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- <sup>3</sup> a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- <sup>4</sup> a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- <sup>5</sup> a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- <sup>6</sup> a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
- <sup>7</sup> a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- <sup>8</sup> a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

### New International Version (NIV)

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

- <sup>2</sup> a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
- <sup>3</sup> a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,
- <sup>4</sup> a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
- <sup>5</sup> a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
- <sup>6</sup> a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
- <sup>7</sup> a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
- <sup>8</sup> a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

**Connection Questions:**

1. What is your favorite season: fall, winter, spring, summer? Why?
2. Do you feel as if your life is in a particular season right now? Describe.
3. Are you typically aware what season you are in?
4. The fourteen pairs of opposites describe various human activities. The poem affirms that God has determined the appropriate moment or “time” for each. Does this reassure you or not?
5. How does it help to simplify your life when you are aware of the season of your life?

6. When you hang onto one season rather than embracing the next, what pressure or stress does it put you under?

7. How does naming and appreciating a season in your life help move you to abundant life?