



Sermon Excerpts:

## ***“Quitting Can Be an Option”***

**May 01, 2022**

***Galatians 6:9 (ESV) “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up.”***

The idea of doing good is the call to minimize human suffering and enhance human well-being in all our affairs.

There are five seasons summer, spring, fall, winter, and “due.” Due season is when God determines the right timing but sometime waiting on God can be cumbersome.

### Don't Quit

Rest if you must, but don't you quit. Life is strange with its twists and turns, as every one of us sometimes learns, and many a failure turns about, when he might have won had he stuck it out, don't give up, though the pace seems slow...You may succeed with another blow. Success is failure turned inside out—Author Unknown

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (KJV) “To everything, there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven...”**

Why We Avoid Endings:

- We do not know if an ending is necessary, or if “it” or “s/he” is fixable.

- We are afraid of the unknown. We fear confrontation. We are afraid of hurting someone.
- We are afraid of letting go and the sadness associated with an ending.
- We do not possess the skills to execute the ending. We do not even know the right words to use.
- We have had too many and too painful endings in our personal history, so we avoid another one.

Here are some questions to ponder about your business and your life that may help you to see if your worldview and subsequent activities are taking seasons into account:

- Do I accept that endings are natural? Do I resist the endings required for changing seasons?
- If I believed in life cycles and seasons, would I stop resisting the idea of a necessary ending?
- Am I hanging on to an activity, product, strategy, or relationship whose season has passed?
- What tasks do I need to change to enter the new season?

However, we must find the balance between don't quit and necessary endings. We must learn to live in liminality which means to move into the transition into the threshold where we are in-between, not yet "quite "this" or "that" and, at the same time, a bit of both "this" and "that" means that we will encounter disruption to our normalcy. The intent to move into such space deliberately will require an accompanying willingness to release ways of functioning and unlearning habits of thought and practice are necessary as well.

Dr. Henry Cloud offers a formula for when you should quit.

1. If the initiative is siphoning off resources that could go to something with more promise...
2. If an endeavor is sick and not going to get well...
3. If it is clear something is already dead...
4. If we are dealing with negative realities in the same old way, over and over again...
5. If more effort is not going to bring about a different result...

While waiting for God we must:

- Brace Ourselves
- Pace Ourselves
- Grace Ourselves