

March 2018

I trust you are experiencing the great goodness of God that David declared in Psalm 31. “Oh, how great is Your goodness which You have laid up...and prepared...” for us! I trust His goodness is blessing you, your family, and your ministry!

All of us move into new seasons throughout our lifetime and ministries. Most of these new seasons involve shifts into the next level of our existing assignments. At other times in our lives, major shifts need to take place that move us into new positions, assignments, and even locations. All of us are either in a new season in our current ministries, or some like me are moving into a totally new and unexpected season of complete change. Transitioning in place, or transitioning to a new place. Either way, what a stretch of our faith and obedience!

What we do know for sure is what God revealed to Solomon: “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven.” We also know for sure that no season is forever, and that is why it is called a “season.” Every move into a new season is purpose driven for us, and the kingdom of God to be done on earth as it is in heaven! Ultimately, it’s all about the purpose of possessing new territory for the kingdom of God.

Moses took Israel as far as he could go, so Joshua was God’s “tag you’re it” leader to take them into their new season of full inheritance. Moses’ level leadership personally pastored people through all their wilderness journeys of life. Joshua’s level leadership takes them where neither the leader or people have ever been before! As God promised Joshua, so He promises all of us at any level of leadership transition: “Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon, I have given you...” What God has given us is supposed to be ours, but it takes next level leadership to transition into the new season. Are you getting positioned for your possession?

The biblical “crossing over...” process from one season to the next, is a critical time when leaders are still dealing with all the changes internally themselves, but at the same time, encouraging leaders and people that with God’s empowerment “we can do this thing!” God promised Joshua “...that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not past this way before.” So, the bottom line is the leader knows where they are going, but has never been there before, and therefore does not know the best way to get there.

Transitions should never be handled as an event, but as process. I have found that being very up front and transparent about transitions, gives people needed information and time to personally process the transition into the new season. Acknowledge the things that will obviously be different, but consistently encourage people with what will remain the same, or how some new things will even be better than ever!

Most of us live in a climate where there are four natural seasons of weather that change regularly. However, some people do not like one or more of these natural seasons so they live in a place where they don’t have to change seasons. My experience has taught me that in life and ministry, no matter how well you try to lead people from one season to the next, there will always be some who want little

if anything to change. Joshua could not take some people into God's best, but he took all the rest.

Let's take as many people as we can into all that God has for them and us!

Thank you for being in relationship with me through RMFI. Thank you also for your support personally and financially to RMFI as we all walk into this new season together!

Blessings!

Ron Carpenter, Jr.