

Preaching Dates

Friday 26 - Sunday 28 October

Glen Cartwright at Newton Mearns Baptist Church Youth Weekend at Gowanbank, Darvel.

Charles Kingsman at Kings Baptist Church, Motherwell at a Youth Conference

Saturday 27 October

Hazel Brooks at "Ignite", Ladies Conference, Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld.

Sunday 28 October 2018

Fraser Allan (am) at Strathendrick Baptist Church.

Paul Cairns (am) at Port Ellen, Isle of Islay

Gordon Dickey (am) at Kelso Baptist Church

Neil Fisher (am) at Dingwall Baptist Church

Graham Horne (am) at Bellshill Baptist Church

Charles Kingsman (am) at New Prestwick Baptist Church

Charles Sommerville (am) at Carbrain Baptist Church

Andrew Swanson (am) at Arran Baptist Church

Paul Cairns (pm) at Bowmore, Isle of Islay

Irene Campbell (pm) at Cathcart Baptist Church

Charles Sommerville (pm) at Coatbridge Baptist Church

David Craig (am + pm) at Ayr Baptist Church

Tuesday 30th Oct

Hazel Brooks (pm) at St David's Memorial Park Church, Kirkintilloch

Wednesday 31 October 2018

Charles Sommerville (pm) at Dykehead Mission



"When Winter Comes"

By Hazel Brooks

I was driving to Callander last week and was captivated by how beautiful the trees looked dressed in their Autumn colours. Yet we're no sooner in Autumn than we are heading into Winter and so it is in life.

Life is a combination of contrasting seasons. We go through mountains, and we go through valleys. We enjoy success, and we suffer failure.

The Bible says there is a season for everything in life (see Eccl. 3:1-8).

God has planned the seasons of our lives with infinite wisdom. He has ordained each one, knowing exactly what fruit is to be harvested during each time frame.

Let's remember Naomi. She suffered untold loss and a season of Winter has crept into her heart and put down roots and stayed.

We read Ruth 1:22

"And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest." Naomi arrives back during a time of celebration. When Naomi left, they were in famine, when she comes back they are in harvest, but ironically, it's her soul that's now in famine.

Naomi heart is so in winter that she misses the signs of God's loving kindness and provision in her life.

Those folks who enjoy gardening know that when seeds are exposed to very chilled conditions before they are planted, they often show a rapid acceleration in the flowering process.

When Naomi arrives home all she sees is the harvest, but the reality is they started planting the seed in the Autumn and it wasn't until spring that it began to show fruit. Which means there was a time in between Autumn and Spring that even the harvest had to go through Winter.

Sometimes God will often expose us to a season of Winter to accelerate our harvest.

The way the earth is tilted...means no one escapes Winter, but we are never meant to stay in Winter. A season of winter is meant to strengthen our roots in God, strengthen our faith and dependence in Christ and then in due time God will produce an abundant harvest in our lives.

Our lives come in seasons and cycles, there is a process which means you have to be able to let go of the spring, summer and autumn cycles in your life, so when winter comes you will remember what summer felt like and you will know what it will feel like again.

We can then come to appreciate the beauty of the seasons and God's wonderful Grace in those cycles.

*Life is unpredictable,
It changes with the seasons,
Even your coldest winter, happens for the best of reasons
And though it feels eternal, like all you'll do is freeze
I promise spring is coming
And with it brand new leaves.*