Caring for Your Soul During Seasons of Change

(Ordering your INNER WORLD during uncertain times)

GOAL

How to be intentional moving from Self-Focused to Soul-Focused During Life's Transitions

TWO LESSONS

- 1. The journey to SOUL HEALTH is never-ending. It is a lifelong journey
- 2. Your past does not stay in your past. There are lessons to be learned IF we seek to reflect on these lessons with intentionality and trust that God has a purpose for it all. And often it is the emotional triggers from your past that surface WHEN you face a season of change or a significant Life Transition.

A Life Transition: An event of some kind that has a SIGNIFICANT impact (spiritually, mentally, emotionally or physically) on your life. There are usually three types: Anticipated, Unanticipated and a Non-Event

ROOTS RUN DEEP

Most of us were not raised in a perfectly loving home while growing up. As a result, we bring into adulthood our past unhealed wounds and emotional baggage. My examples:

- No boundaries or limits regarding what I want to do
- An independent attitude
- Dreading conflict
- Need for clarity, certainty and stability

These need to be surfaced and addressed or they will play a key role in dictating how you handle Life Transitions.

THE SOUL CARE LIFE TRANSITION MODEL (BD Version)

Your Response To: <u>Jesus</u>, <u>Your Thought-Life</u>, <u>Your Emotions</u> and <u>People Closest to</u> You?

The quality and quantity of our intimate time with Jesus will be the single most important factor that will dictate how healthy we will respond during a Life Transition Event

During Your Storms, What Are Your Anchors? – (Prov 3:5-6, Phil 2:5, 2 Cor 5:17)

| UNHEALTHY (Self-Focused) | HEALTHY (Soul-Focused) |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Isolating | Connect with your community |
| Stuff emotions | Identify & express emotions, self-regulate |
| Control – Out of Control | Be humility – teachable |
| Anger – Harshness | Have compassion, empathy and kindness |
| Passive-Aggressive | Practice balanced Self-Care |
| Irritable | Be aware of temptations and your sin areas |
| Turn From God and rely on me (old | Turn Towards God and rely on His promises |
| self) | (new creation) |

HEALTHY SOUL-CARE QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the specific Life Transition(s) that I am going through right now?
- 2. What has been my typical "go to" response, when faced with a Life Transition?
- 3. What are the specific emotions I am feeling at this time as a result of this Life Transition?
- 4. What are the main thoughts about this Life Transition that are dominating my thought-life? Where might the enemy attack me?
- 5. How am I responding to the people in my life at this time?
- 6. How might God be in this Life Transition and what does He want me to know or learn?
- 7. How can I respond in a healthier way in ALL areas (see chart)?
- 8. Who am I allowing into my inner life right now?
- 9. Do I need any help at this time?
- 10. Can I help someone else?

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO

- Be intentional about developing and maintaining regular healthy habits and routines, spiritually, emotionally and mentally
- Maintain and connect with your trusted, close healthy community
- Be open to talk about your emotions (fears, concerns, etc) for potential Life Transitions
- Monitor your thought-life, it will show you the pathway you are on
- Check in regularly with people in your life to give you honest feedback regarding your self-awareness level
- Be hyper aware of your "GO-TO" unhealthy responses to Life Transitions and make plans how to address
- Identity your anchors of God's Promises so you can rely and trust them when you are in a Life Transition

SOUL CARE LIFE TRANSITIONS MODEL

