

Seasons



By Arthur Navarrete
Executive Care Landscaping

Welcome to our December edition. This is the hardest article I write because it is so personal. For those of you that know me, and those I have had the privilege to landscape for, please know that we approach each job with your best interest in mind. If I would not do it in my yard, then I will not do it in yours. My faith, which is something that I have had since a teenager, has taught me that above all things, God values people. That truth and the importance of that has and is still molding my heart to be and do likewise. I tell my men that the most important thing we do aside from our work is to value our clients. To know me is to know that I maintain this belief of client relationships and it stems from a personal belief in a God who adores us and seeks to be in relationship with each of us. If I note a client is having a hard time, I will ask permission to pray for them, and together, then and there we pray. It's such a joy, and I long for the requests of the prayer to manifest themselves. My faith means nothing to me if my belief is not translated into action and care.

The title "Seasons" comes from the observance of my life. The seasons of my life as a newlywed, a family man, a business owner, a grandfather, and a forty-two-year marriage, have taught me much about life, especially seeing it through the eyes of faith. The greatest joy we have is helping our daughters with the grandkids. It has been a gift that I never imagined Lisa and

I would have. We were very young parents when we had our daughters, and made our share of mistakes, so to be able to redeem that somewhat through the grandkids means the world to us. To be a consistent representative of God's love, in this season of my life, is not nearly as challenging as in prior years. I am not there yet, nor do I believe I will ever be, but I am ever pressing forward as I continue to grow in the knowledge of how much The Lord loves us.

As I look back on my life, I can see how God has engineered everything in my life to make me who I am today. The past has been tough, but I believe it has been designed by God as such. For in the toughness of life, I am not apt to trust myself but reach out to the Lord seeking His intervention and wisdom. God has all the resources and often He works through His people to be the tools of intervention in other's lives. We are to seek Him by reading the Bible to strengthen our faith, pray and trust Him. God has a path for each of us to take, and it is the difficulties of life that mold us and show us our limitations. It is important for us to take a serious look at what our return is on all that we are pursuing and sacrificing for and make sure it is worth it.

In the seasons of our lives, we have different answers to whether it was worth it not depending on our age and maturity level. As we mature, our values change and the glitz and glamor of life that so appealed to us in our younger years loses its shine. My happy spot in this season of my life is with my family and grandkids along with using the skill and talents we have developed as a company over these last 35 years of business. We desire to create beauty in such a way that our clients are blessed long after we have left. Having the truth of God's Word in me, guiding me through the seasons of my life has kept me from making many foolish decisions.

The assurance of His presence is beyond what I can express in words. When the monsters are big and abundant, He is bigger still. When the pain is so deep, I can't even express it, His love goes deeper. When confusion and lack of wisdom is present, all I need is to get alone, pray and read the scriptures and then clarity and action come to mind. There is not a curve ball that life can throw that we - God and I - cannot hit out of the park, and that kind of confidence cannot be bought. It's a gift, and it comes from years of walking with God. He has not only become my Lord and Savior, but my absolute best friend. It has taken thirty - fifty years of climbing the mountain with Him to

reach where I am in my walk of faith, and to be honest, I cannot wait to see what the future years will bring. I don't know, but I am anxious to find out.

I know we are all very busy right now so thank you for taking the time to read this article. May you have a great Christmas. Also, I write a monthly devotional called Vida (Life in Spanish)4U (Vida4U) that covers a range of topics, from marriage to raising kids, to dealing with people, problems etc. all from a Biblical perspective. If you would be interested, I would love to share it with you. Please send a request to Arthur@executivecareinc.com. requesting Vida4U. May God Bless you and let us be mindful of the needs around us and pray for our leaders to have cool heads and wisdom in our current worldly affairs. I will leave you with a benediction.

Numbers 6:24-26

**"The LORD Bless you and keep you;
The LORD make His face to shine upon
you and be gracious to you.**

**The LORD lift up His countenance
upon you and give you peace."**

Merry Christmas,
Arthur

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