

Is it really the end of July? The summer of 2025 will soon be history and I wonder what I have accomplished? This is the story of my life. It seems like yesterday I was packing for 2024 National Convention in New Orleans.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says it all. Thank you Lord, for the many seasons of life. Thank you for this very season of our lives that we are enjoying right now, even with the struggles involved. Help us to remember that this season will endure for such a short while, and then a new season-a new fall will come into our lives followed by winter.

We know this is because You are a God of forward movement and as we find some enjoyment in this present season, we know that in the future there will be "a time for" what you have planned for us next.

This all reminds me of the story "The Train Of Life."

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel by our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant: our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of our lives. Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we do not realize they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells.

Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves. The mystery for everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seats empty, we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I sincerely wish all of you a joyful journey on this train of life. Reap success and give lots of love. Lastly, I thank you all for being passengers on my train.

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