

THE SEASON OF LONELINESS
Growing in the Seasons of Life - Part 2
#SeasonOfLoneliness
Dr. Mark Jackson - July 9, 2017
2 Timothy 4:6-21

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone..." (NKJV)

FOUR CAUSES OF LONELINESS

1. TRANSITIONS (vs 6-8)

2 Timothy 4:6-8 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and **the time has come for my departure.** ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. (NIV)

2. SEPARATIONS (vs. 9, 21)

2 Timothy 4:9 Do your best to **come to me quickly.** (NIV)

2 Timothy 4:21a Do your best to **get here** before winter. (NIV)

3. OPPOSITION (vs. 14-15)

2 Timothy 4:14-15 Alexander the metalworker **did me great harm...** ¹⁵ ...he was **violently opposed to our message.** (TEV)

4. REJECTION (vs. 16)

2 Timothy 4:16a ...**no one came to my support,** but **everyone deserted me...** (NIV)

HOW TO COPE WITH LONELINESS

1. UTILIZE MY TIME (vs. 13)

2 Timothy 4:13 When you come, **bring my coat** that I left in Troas with Carpus; **bring the books** too, and especially the ones made of parchment. (TEV)

2. MINIMIZE MY HURT (vs. 16)

2 Timothy 4:16b ...everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. (NIV)

3. RECOGNIZE GOD'S PRESENCE (vs. 17a)

2 Timothy 4:17a But the Lord stood with me... (NLT)

4. EMPHASIZE SERVING GOD (vs. 17b)

2 Timothy 4:17b The Lord... gave me strength so that I might preach the Good News in its entirety for all the Gentiles to hear. (NLT)

Jeremiah 3:14 "...you belong to me. Come home!" (CEV)