

# To Everything There Is a Season, Part 1

November 1, 2009

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”

— Ecclesiastes 3:1

What is the season of your life *right now*?

Your youth is a time for fun, friendship and learning...  
But not a good time for pairing off, steady dating, courtship or marriage.

Youth is a great time for “shopping” — a time to look but not buy.

The young romances you see on Nickelodeon and Disney  
*are not right.*

“Dating before then [age 16] can lead to immorality, limit the number of other young people you meet, and deprive you of experiences that will help you choose an eternal partner.” — *For the Strength of Youth*, p. 24

Satan has power to lead us astray when we knowingly and willingly resist the counsel of the prophet the God.

“The devil has no power over us only as we permit him. The moment we revolt at anything which comes from God, the devil takes power.” — Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, p. 181

Love is like a box of chocolates.

If you are “going out,” you may be experiencing more upset, anger, and frustration in your life than you otherwise would.

Doubts and jealousies run higher if you pursue a romantic relationship outside of the bounds the Lord has set.

What is wrong at Church is also wrong at home and at school.

As Latter-day Saints, we *are* different, and it’s *great* to be different in the right way.

Living the gospel greatly reduces your risk for unhappiness.

We follow the counsel of a prophet of God, the Lord’s appointed servant.

“There could never be enough rules so finely crafted as to anticipate and cover every situation, and even if there were, enforcement would be impossibly expensive and burdensome.”

– D. Todd Christofferson

## Feelings *versus* Expression of Those Feelings

### Feelings

- Your romantic *feelings* are normal and natural
- God gave them to you for an eternal purpose
- You cannot and should not extinguish your feelings, but you *must* control them
- Right now, your feelings are for your learning and growth, but not for full expression

### Expression of Feelings

- The Lord always draws boundaries around our behavior to keep us safe
- Youth is a great time to develop friendships, but not a great time for romantic, long-term relationships
- It is a great time to learn about the opposite sex, but not to express excessive or intimate physical affection

Romantic feelings are not sin, though the physical expression of those feelings may lead to sin.

Love is a choice, not an irresistible force.

### Good Things to Do!

- Have fun!
- Enjoy social activities at Mutual, Church, school, dances, parties
- Girls, learn all about boys
- Boys, learn all about girls
- Develop good, lasting friendships

### End of Part 1

Join us on November 29th at the same place and time for the “sealed” portion of the slides.