The well-loved words of Ecclesiastes take on new life and meaning in the sun-baked rural setting of a South African homestead. Sowing, planting, and reaping through the wet and dry seasons, going to market, day-to-day dealings with neighbors and acquaintances, love and hostility, the sadness of mourning and the joy of celebration with family and friends — Judy Daly portrays an ageless world, studded with color and miniature detail, in this very special book.

My Personal Review:
The first eight verses of the third chapter of Ecclesiastes constitute the text of this lovely picture book. This is a book to look at carefully, to think about, and to discuss. The biblical passage contains some challenging concepts, including hate and killing, but tackling the ideas with your children in this picture book format makes the teaching job easier.

The words are from the poetic King James Version of the Bible, and Jude Daly's scenes of life on a seaside farm in South Africa are gentle. For example, her illustration for "a time of war" is simply a field of crosses. It is part of a two-page spread and paired with the phrase "and a time of peace." The larger illustration features a wonderful, long rainbow that family members admire.

Although aimed at young children, all ages will enjoy thinking about this Bible passage and looking at the illustrations by this South African artist.

Below are the familiar words used in the book:

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.
To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

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To Everything There Is a Season - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!