

# 8. SEASONS

WHEN JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES CAME FROM BETHANY, HE WAS HUNGRY. SEEING IN THE DISTANCE A FIG TREE IN LEAF, HE WENT TO SEE WHETHER PERHAPS HE WOULD FIND ANYTHING ON IT. WHEN HE CAME TO IT, HE FOUND NOTHING BUT LEAVES,

FOR IT WAS NOT THE SEASON FOR FIGS.

*MARK 11:12*

## What Season Are You In Now?

For everything, there is a season  
If we pause, lean in, and observe nature during each season  
We will see change, transformation, flourishing, and renewal  
All seasons have the capacity to grow us  
All seasons contribute to the growth of our fruit  
Our calling is consistent and persistent through the seasons  
God abides in the vines,  
God abides in the branches  
God abides in the trees  
God is the gardener of our growth  
God plants us  
God waters us  
God prunes us  
Season after season  
God delights in the fruit we bear  
In the church calendar,  
Advent calls us to wait with expectation  
Christmas calls us to celebrate  
The Epiphany calls us to participate  
Lent calls us to prepare  
Easter calls us to restoration  
Ordinary time calls us to follow  
Seasons call us to discern, contemplate, to be patient and persevere  
Like Kelly, you may be called from work to home  
You may be called into a new space or time  
You may be called to patience, perseverance, or introspection.  
You may be called through prayer, contemplation, or interactions with nature  
Just as the gardener, God tends us season after season  
Through winter, spring, summer and fall  
Our callings narrow, expand, deepen and become clear

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## Exploration Questions

- What significant disruptions did you experience soon after the pandemic hit? How is Kelly's story like or unlike what you experienced, and why?
- What does it mean to you that God created the world to move between seasons, and calls us into perpetual change?
- What fruits have you seen and experienced in this last season of your life?