

SLS Seasonal Awareness



UNDERSTANDING THE SEASON YOU ARE IN

Every leader who seeks to bear lasting fruit will move through seasons of growth, pruning, and harvest. These are not one-time events. They are cyclical. You will experience each season multiple times throughout your life and leadership. The key is not to avoid any season, but to recognize which one you are in, to understand its purpose, and to cooperate with what God is doing in that season.

WINTER *Marked by Dormancy*

The vine is bare. There are no leaves and no fruit. Life feels cold, stark, and sometimes discouraging. Yet, dormancy is not stagnancy. God is pruning, inspecting the soil of your heart, removing weeds, and preparing the root system for what is ahead. This is a season of hidden, essential work.

SPRING *Buds Break and Flowers Open*

New shoots emerge and the first flowers appear. Hope returns, but so does risk. Frost can still kill early growth. This is where many leaders get into trouble by celebrating too soon, letting up on discipline, or resisting the repositioning God is doing. Stay faithful. Keep building.

SUMMER *Fruit Growth and Ripening*

The hard work is paying off. Growth is visible and flourishing is abundant. However, this season brings new dangers: distraction by compliments, and the arrival of opportunists who were nowhere around during the winter. Protect what God is ripening. Discernment is not suspicion; it is stewardship.

FALL *The Harvest*

This is the season of fulfillment. Enjoy it, share generously, and train others. The real harvest is discipleship: leaders you have poured into who are now bearing their own fruit. But stay humble, stay discerning, and prepare wisely. Winter is always coming again.

HOW TO USE THIS SURVEY

This survey walks you through three stages. First, on page 2, reflect on how you typically lead in each of the four seasons. Then, on pages 3 through 5, identify the season you are in right now, assess your relational circle, listen for what God is saying, and commit to a next step. Be honest with yourself. You may be in more than one season at once across different areas of your life. This is not a test. It is a tool for your growth.

How I Lead in Each Season

Understanding your patterns, temptations, and growth edges

<p>WINTER <i>Dormancy</i></p> <p>Temptation: <i>Despair, quitting, isolation, believing God has forgotten you.</i></p> <p>How do I typically lead here?</p> <hr/> <p>My challenges & fears:</p> <hr/> <p>My blessings & opportunities:</p> <hr/> <p><i>When things go quiet, do I trust the process or try to force something to happen?</i></p>	<p>SPRING <i>Buds & Blossoms</i></p> <p>Temptation: <i>Premature exposure, impatience, abandoning discipline at the first sign of results.</i></p> <p>How do I typically lead here?</p> <hr/> <p>My challenges & fears:</p> <hr/> <p>My blessings & opportunities:</p> <hr/> <p><i>When I see early progress, do I stay disciplined or start coasting?</i></p>
<p>SUMMER <i>Fruit & Ripening</i></p> <p>Temptation: <i>Pride, distraction by compliments, allowing the wrong people access.</i></p> <p>How do I typically lead here?</p> <hr/> <p>My challenges & fears:</p> <hr/> <p>My blessings & opportunities:</p> <hr/> <p><i>When things are going well, do I stay focused on the work or get distracted by the attention?</i></p>	<p>FALL <i>The Harvest</i></p> <p>Temptation: <i>Hoarding, complacency, neglecting preparation, pride disguised as gratitude.</i></p> <p>How do I typically lead here?</p> <hr/> <p>My challenges & fears:</p> <hr/> <p>My blessings & opportunities:</p> <hr/> <p><i>When I achieve success, do I openly share what I've learned by teaching others, or do I keep that information to myself?</i></p>

Listening and Discerning

WHAT IS GOD SAYING IN THIS SEASON?

Take a moment to be still. The Vinedresser is always at work, even when the vine looks bare. What do you sense God is doing, pruning, growing, or harvesting in you right now? What is He asking you to release? What is He asking you to receive?

1. What do I sense God is currently doing in my life and leadership?

2. What is God asking me to let go of in this season?

3. What is God asking me to receive, trust, or step into?

WHO IS IN MY VINEYARD?

Your relational circle shifts with the seasons. Some people stay through the winter. Others only appear when there is fruit to consume. This is not about suspicion. It is about stewardship and discernment.

1. Who stayed with me during the last hard season (winter)?

2. Who appeared only after things started going well (summer/fall)?

3. Right now, who is helping me grow and who is consuming my energy?

Accountability & Next Steps

Awareness without action is just information. This section moves your reflection into commitment. A survey that stays in your notebook changes nothing. A commitment shared with a trusted person changes everything.

MY COMMITMENTS

1. Now that I know my season, what is one thing I will start doing differently?

2. What is one thing I need to stop doing in this season?

3. What is one thing I need to continue doing, even when it is hard?

MY ACCOUNTABILITY

4. Who will I share this survey with? (Name a specific person.)

5. When will I follow up with this person to review my progress?

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me."

— John 15:4 (ESV)