**Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation**

**By Parker J. Palmer**

**Chapter 6: There is a Season**

Palmer begins with seasonal metaphor to deepen our understanding of others and for the movement of lives. There is constant learning, feeling and a return of past experiences. There is an outside power playing into the movement of our life.

Autumn: Great beauty, but also decline. (Pg. 98) Seeds are not being planted but the green of summer is fading away. It is also a reminder that ‘daily dyings are necessary precursors to new life.” (Pg. 100) Have you ever had to give up something to make room for something else new?

Winter: “The little deaths of autumn are mild precursors to the rigor morits of winter.” (Pg. 100) There is a quiet to winter but also, “the gift is the reminder that times or dormancy and deep rest are essential to all living things.” (Pg. 101) Have you ever had to have a time of waiting in your life for something good to come along?

Spring: ‘Before the beauty, comes the mud.’ (Pg. 103) Palmer describes the almost impossibility of spring and how everything comes back to life again, and yet we take that for granted. Have you ever had to work so hard for something, but seen someone else achieve likewise too easily?

Summer: “In contrast to the sensationalism of spring, summer is a steady state of plenty, a green and amber muchness that feeds us on more levels than we know.” (Pg. 106) There is an abundance that comes with summer, but sometimes that leads us to hoarding and not sharing. What do you believe you can share from your abundance?

As you reflect on your life and your vocations or callings, what season are you in now?