

Module 3: Please Wait to Be Seated! Gathering Activities - Taster's Choice: A Sampling of Seasonal Sensations

Taster's Choice: A Sampling of Seasonal Sensations is designed to be one of two activities to engage participants as they gather. Participants will play a game to acquaint them with some of the characteristics of each season of the church year. They will also have the opportunity to enjoy a color-coded treat. Copies of the game may be available for families or participants to play at home.

The Leader's Notes for this activity, along with any needed preparations and supplies are outlined below. A Program Planning Grid (PDF file) is available to assist you in coordinating the details and tasks involved. You may wish to display a sign to distinguish between the gathering activities and the learning centers. A "Please Wait to Be Seated" sign design (PDF file) is provided for this purpose. You may wish to print the name of the activity on the bottom half of the sign.

Approximate time: 5-7 minutes

Equipment and Supplies:

- "Please Wait to Be Seated" sign design (PDF file)
- "Symbols and Seasons" game board. (PDF file)
- Seasonal Sensation cards A-F (PDF file)
- Taster's Choice reference sheet (PDF file)
- Happy New Year! coloring sheet (PDF file)
- A treat that incorporates the colors of the church year, like M&M's or Skittles or Fruit Loops cereal
- Overhead projector and transparencies
- Optional: Recipe for "[De Colores de los Estaciones](#)" (rainbow) finger gelatin (PDF file)

Leader's Notes:

Scan through the activity outline and adapt your plans to honor the time you have scheduled for your overall event. You may wish to recruit a few people to pre-cut Seasonal Sensation cards. There are four questions per seasons that need to be cut into individual cards.

Activity:

Encourage participants to go to the Special Guest Check-in first. There they will receive a "Reason's for the Seasons" Party Planner and a Stirrin' Spoon that will be beneficial to their participation in other event components. If you haven't already enlarged the Church Year Wheel for Stirrin' Up a Celebration, photo copy the pattern onto a transparency. Then, use an overhead projector to enlarge it onto a piece of newsprint, poster board or an even larger piece of foam board. Display it on a wall or easel for easy reference. Make at least one copy of the Seasonal Sensations cards on lightweight card stock. Consider giving each family a game board and deck of cards to play a home version of this game. Or, you might encourage individuals and families to turn the Church Wheel on the back of their Reasons for the Seasons Party Planners into a game board and give them copies of the Seasonal Sensations cards to use in the future. Permit participants to "come and go" from this activity as they wait for "Stirrin' Up a Celebration" to begin.

To develop the theme of this program and title of this activity, you might offer M&M's or De Colores de los Estaciones" (rainbow) finger gelatin as a reward for correct answers or participation in the game. You might even invite participants to sample only the color coded for the season each question addresses.

A coloring sheet is provided to engage the younger participants. You will probably want to designate an area nearby for this activity.

Display the Taster's Choice reference sheet as a table tent. Refer to the content of this Bible verse as you affirm God's presence and activity each day throughout the year regardless of what season we are celebrating or how many times we have repeated them.