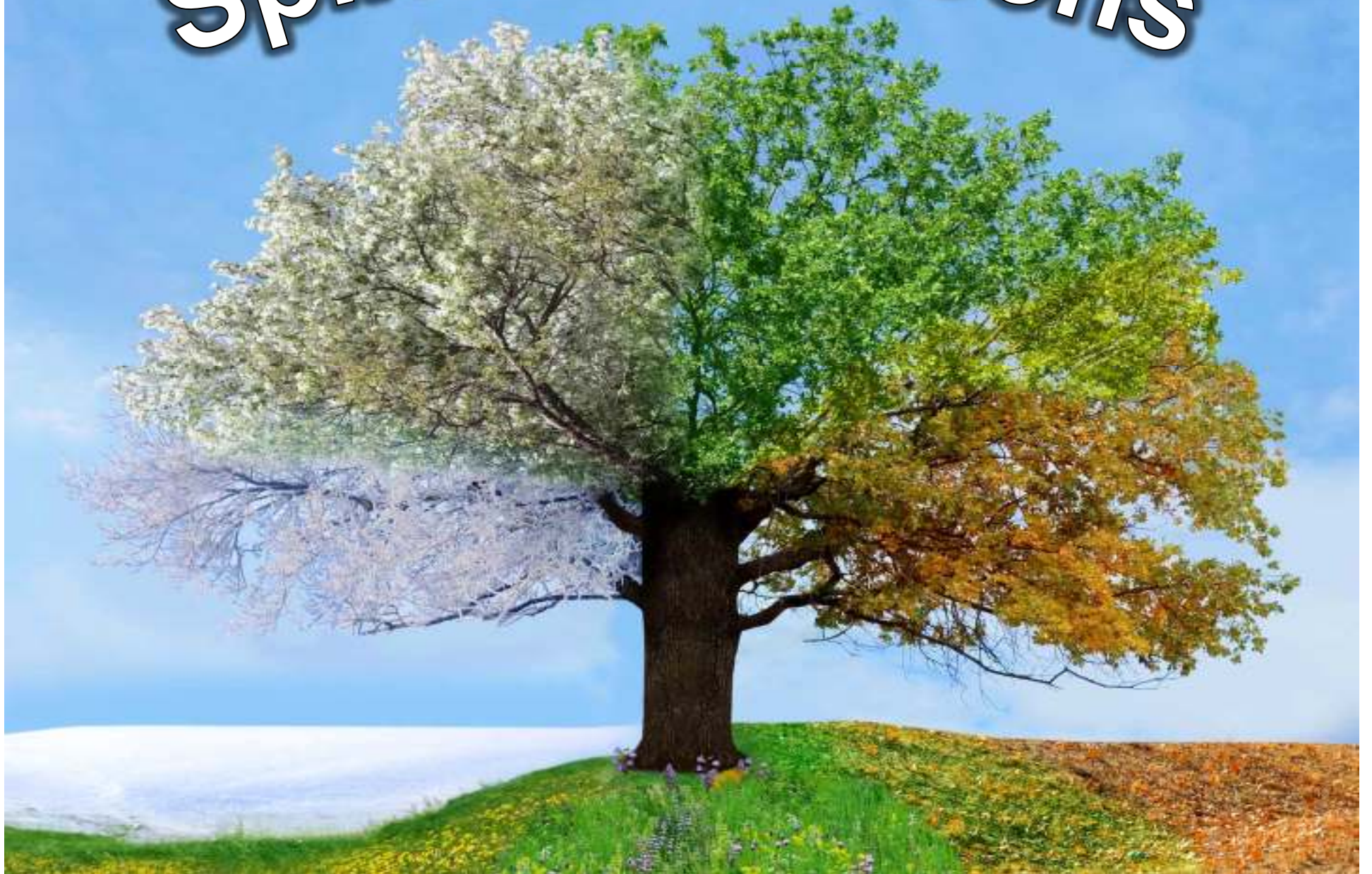


Life has Seasons!



Spiritual Seasons



The Tree



The Season of Summer



Summer is the season of heat

Olaph wants to experience Summer

He wants sunny beaches

Leisurely days

Fun in the sun

**But of course you and I can see
the irony because what do
frozen things do in summer?**



**Summer at least as
we understand it is
all about the heat
being
turned up**



The Tree --- How it Looks

During the summer months our trees are covered with lush green leaves

Leaves on a tree are an indication that the tree is healthy

A tree with no leaves we assume to be dying or dead

They grew during the spring but they are vital to surviving summer and winter



**The leaves during
the summer are
collectors and
protectors**



**Leaves are
Important!**



The Tree --- How it is growing

Now the tree does not grow
the leaves in the summer

The Branches

The leaves collect the water that will
eventually be funneled to the trunk

The Branches

When the rains are on the way
the tree reaches out for a drink

The Branches



About Branches

Good branches have leaves

Those branches provide
water to the trunk

During really dry spells the
trunk returns the favor and
give water to the branch



About Branches

A branch with no leaves provides nothing to the tree so the trunk will shut off its water

Eventually the branch dries and in one of those summer storms is broken off from the tree



**The tree has no time for
dead wood**

**Either produce
or be cut off**



Spiritual Summer

(John 15:1-8)



John 15:1-8

Jesus is the vine or if you want to
apply it to our tree...the trunk

All the branches have
to connect to the trunk

Any stick not connected to
Christ should not consider
themselves a branch



**There is an expectation
for branches**

**He cuts off every branch
in me that bears no fruit**

**While every branch that does
bear fruit he prunes so that it
will be even more fruitful**



There is an expectation for branches

**If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit**

**If you do not remain in me,
you are like a branch that is
thrown away and withers**



What is Fruit?

Leaves

(Those things that feed our branch)
are a sign of life but they are **NOT** fruit

Fruit on the tree does not equal
a new tree but by definition fruit
is that which is used to produce
life in somebody other than
yourself



**Jesus makes it
VERY
clear, inward focused
branches that are just
trying to stay
alive will not**



Positive Note:
If you are bearing fruit God will
do what needs to be done to
make sure
you continue

It's not a one time
expectation



The Season of Summer

The hot dry times
that help us see
where
we really are

