

## **“LIFE THROUGH THE LENS”**



### **NEED TO SHED OLD TO GROW NEW**

The small feet were scuffing through the colourful leaves when the inevitable question came. “Grandpa; Why do trees get rid of their leaves?”

A complicated botanical answer would have been about chlorophyll and sugars and other stuff. The simple answer. “That’s how God made them.” The leaf scattering stopped, but I could tell there was more to come, “Oh! OK! But why did he make them like that?”

“Well, God knows that in the cold winter, the tree blood which is pumped around through the leaves would get cold and hurt the tree. So it is all pumped down to the roots where it stays warm and is made stronger to grow new leaves in springtime. The tree doesn’t need the old leaves, so they fall off.” A reddish leaf was examined, then cast aside with a casual, “Oh! OK!”

As I watched the leaves again being gleefully scattered, I thought how much better our lives would be if we could be like the tree. Let the old hurting parts of our lives, which stop our growth as confident individuals be dropped and blown away. Stop holding onto our angry thoughts, our desires to get even. Instead of clutching hurts caused by others, grow feelings of confidence and worth. Then I remembered words from God’s Book, “anyone united with Jesus gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life flourishes!” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Like the tree getting ready for spring, let God pump into you, faith in his love for you; trust that Jesus loves you. Let him start growing you into a new and more vibrant life of love and confidence.

Have a great week, and stay safe and warm.

Kevin