✨SEASONS: *In the Garden*

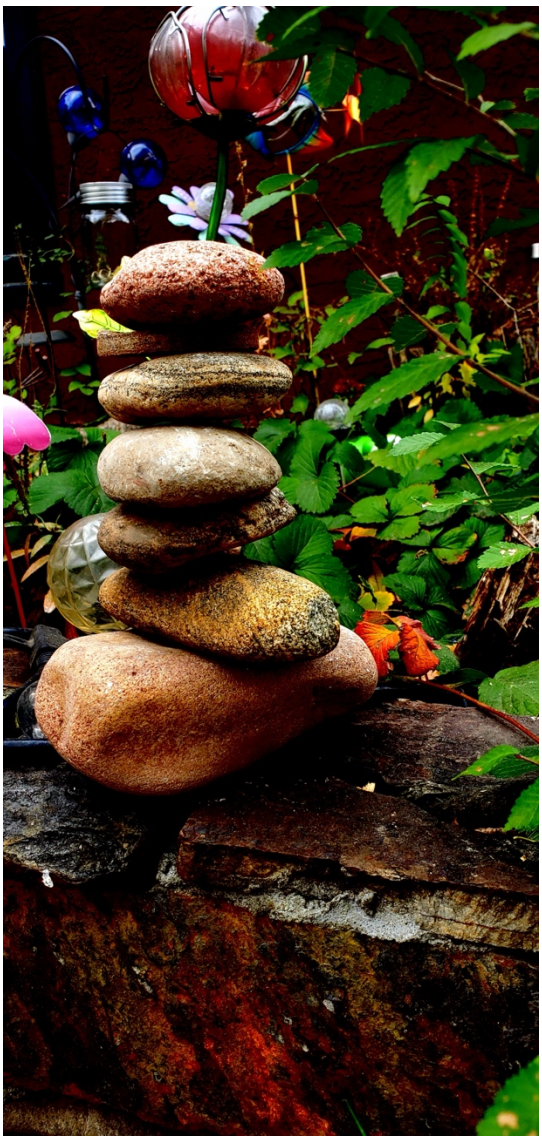
Ecclesiastes 3:1, 'To everything, there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven.' (NKJV)

I'd never really thought about it before. Til now. The first demonstration of every season happened in the garden. With Adam and Eve. Walk with me. Through the garden.

When time began, the very Spirit of God Himself hovered over the deep (Gen 1:1-2). It was a season of darkness like humankind would never know, because God spoke, and when He spoke, "Let there be light!" light entered the world. So, the season of light began, and thus days and nights came to be (Gen 1:3-5).

God then created and divided, formed and sculpted, and He designated land (Earth) separate from waters (Seas), (Gen 1:6-10). And He began planting. He planted seeds of all kinds, for grasses and herbs and fruits (Gen 1:11-12), and He assigned time, appointing seasons and years (Gen 1:14). For the remainder of the first chapter in the Book of Life, God created every living thing, birds of the air, creatures of the sea, all things that roamed, and He created you and me, from the dirt of the ground mixed with breath in His lungs. The season of life became the season of growth and change and being.

And then the unthinkable happened.



Mankind, whom God had dreamt into being for fellowship with Him, wanted even more than they had been given. If the enemy of our souls hadn't whispered sweet nothings in the woman's ear, perhaps none of our story would have evolved as such. But, one minute we are tending the garden and the next we are hiding in that garden from our Creator, because of the innate longing inside of us for more than we've already received.

I think one of the saddest verses in the Bible is Genesis 3:8, 'And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.' (NKJV) To me, this is the first season of dying, and ultimately, our death. But God pursued the man and the woman He had so lovingly breathed into being, looking for them in the beautiful garden He'd planted just for their pleasure, not because He was lost, but because they were. I think about the season of loss and sadness I can only imagine the Lord God had to have felt, the reality of mankind's choice falling like a gavel on a judge's podium. He could have given up just then; the God of the Universe could have. But God...did not. Give up. Rather, He sewed fig leaves together with His own hands to make clothing to cover their vulnerability and humanity. Because sin entered the world through their disobedience, mankind could no longer live in this place, in this fallen state of sin and separation from God. Therefore, out of His extravagant kindness, God removed Adam and Eve from the garden He once had planted for them, and a new season of planning and life began.