FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Rooted July 22, 2025 Suzi Armstrong

The Lord has been calling deep unto deep – He has been opening the way for us to come deeper. Deeper into the mountain of God. Deeper in relationship and intimacy. Deeper in knowledge and understanding. Deeper in union with Christ. In the deep God is dealing with root structure and root systems. Where do our roots lie? As Believers, Jesus is our root. What is not from Him is being uprooted. This is part of the building God is doing. It is foundational.

Colossians 2.6-8 NIV

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, **continue to live your lives in him**, ⁷ **rooted and built up in him**, **strengthened** in the faith as you were taught, and **overflowing with thankfulness**.
⁸ **See to it that no one takes you captive** through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on **human tradition** and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

Rooted in Christ. Roots that go deep firmly hold you in place. Especially when the winds of adversity blow. When doubt and unbelief come to test your faith. As the serpent spoke to Eve in the Garden, "Did God really say?" Through our root system in Christ we are strengthened and built up, fortified for the days that we are living in. What you are rooted in produces fruit and gives clear identity.

Isaiah 40.31 TPT

³¹ But **those who entwine their hearts with Yahweh** will experience divine strength. They will rise up on soaring wings and fly like eagles, run their races without growing weary, and **walk through life without giving up.**

• A heart entwined with God is deeply rooted in intimacy that feeds you throughout your life – it is filled with hope and vision.

Proverbs 3.5-6 NASB

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding;

⁶ in all your ways **acknowledge Him**, and He will make your paths straight.

The root word of acknowledge is knowledge. The Greek Lexicon defines knowledge as a living relational reality rooted in God's character. Knowledge is part of who God is. He is all-knowing and ever-present. We are rooted in Christ, having entwined our hearts with His as we lean on Him and lean into His knowledge, our path will become straight. This is key to understand. Don't let the familiarity of these words in Proverbs 3 cause you to miss the deep significance of the meaning. This is about being rooted. It is the system of supply. Heaven's supply. The provision of God to His sons and daughters.

There are multiple types of knowledge that our root system accesses through being in Christ. All of these different types of knowledge feed and sustain our being, strengthen us and make the path straight.

- 1. **Cognitive knowledge** learn information.
- Experiential and relational knowledge invites personal encounters with God. Exodus 33.13 NIV "...teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you." Psalm 34.8 NIV "Taste and see that the Lord is good..." 1 Samuel 3.7 NIV "Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him."

- 3. **Covenantal knowledge** the ability to choose God and His covenant of love. **Romans 10.9** NIV "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
- 4. **Moral knowledge** discerning good from evil. This is the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil.
- 5. **Prophetic knowledge** God's knowledge precedes time. **Jeremiah 1.5** NASB "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you..."
- Revelation knowledge flows from God's disclosure. Proverbs 1.7 NIV "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge..." Daniel 2.22 NIV "He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him."
- 7. **Knowledge that leads to worship** worship grows from knowing God; from being deeply rooted in Christ. Knowing Christ evokes awe, confidence, and praise. **Psalm 9.1** TPT "I will worship you, Yahweh, with extended hands as my whole heart erupts with praise! I will tell everyone everywhere about your wonderful works!" This is an ecstatic shout of praise that breaks strongholds and renews strength, focus and determination.
- 8. **Knowledge and accountability Hosea 4.6** NIV "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge."

Ephesians 3.17-19 NIV

¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being **rooted and established** in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may **be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.**

Colossians 1.15-17 NIV

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, **the firstborn over all creation.** ¹⁶ For **in him all things were created:** things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things have been created through him and for him.** ¹⁷ **He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.**

- Detroit was created through the Son and for Him.
- It is in Christ that Detroit will hold together.
- Detroit has a history and testimony of great moves of God.

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

We speak into the root system of Detroit. We decree to our City, see to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. We declare that all corruption that resides in the root system of our City is being exposed and removed.

In the Name of Jesus, we call for the root system of Detroit to align with righteousness and justice. We declare that Detroit is rooted in the knowledge of God, and that God will make the way to build and advance known to our City. We declare that there is a sound of true worship coming out of Detroit. It is an ecstatic shout of praise that breaks strongholds set against the ways of truth and righteousness. We call for Detroit to entwine its heart with the heart of God. Detroit, wait upon the Lord and be renewed and strengthened in your roots. You will be rooted and established in the love of God and filled with the measure of all the fullness of God.