

# Trees 3

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# Roots

- When a seed is planted, its first priority is to sprout roots. We, as believers, must grow good roots in order to be strong enough to prepare for further growth. *Rom. 11:16 For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches.*
- Structural roots stabilize trees. If we hope to be unmovable like a tree, our structural roots must be strong enough to keep us standing through tough times. These roots are fortified by our faith in God. *Matt. 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.*
- Feeder roots are the small fibrous extensions that absorb water and minerals. As believers, our roots in the Word will supply us with what we need to grow into what God has purposed. *Luke 8:13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.*



# TRUNK

- The function of the tree trunk is to encourage the plant to grow upward towards the light. The more light the tree receives, the taller it will grow. Christians should always endeavor to grow toward the light. Darkness will always stunt our growth. *2Cor. 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*
- As a tree grows, old cells die. These cells form the bark of the tree. The bark protects the inner life of the tree from disease and harsh elements. As believers, when we deny ourselves daily, we slowly grow a defensive, mental barrier to protect us from reverting and damaging ourselves. This lengthy process requires patience. *James 1:4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*
- The girth of the trunk decides how much the tree can store and distribute. The greater the width of the trunk, the more power the tree will have to grow tall. This growth represents the good things that we put into ourselves. We can only do good, if good is in us. *Matt. 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.*



# BRANCHES

- Branches sprout out to carefully position the leaves so they can all remain in the light of the sun. In our lives, everything we do must be done in the light. God's light will keep us from falling. *John 11:10 But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.*
- Leaves specialize in converting light energy into chemical energy. This process is known as, photosynthesis. Likewise, we must be able to translate what we receive from God spiritually into our natural walk. Our physical lives must reflect His Spirit. *Rom. 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*
- Fruit is produced to nourish others, reproduce, and show the condition of the tree. Christ stated that we would know false prophets by the fruit that they bear. When a tree is corrupt, it will bear bad fruit and reproduce itself, similarly. The bad fruit proves that the tree was bad inwardly. *Matt. 7:20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.*



**Summary**

Being like a tree means more than just standing tall. The arduous process that a tree goes through to stand, is of utmost importance. We must endure God's growth process, so we can be like the tree that stands and grows toward the light. When we take our time and allow life's processes to occur, we will be fruit-bearing trees in God's due season. Our lives will be stable and secure because we walk through God's plan instead of running aimlessly with a greater chance of missteps.

Growing roots for stability and nourishment is the first step in maturation. Next, we must store up good works to fortify our trunk, so that it pushes us up towards the light. Lastly, allowing old issues and dead things to make us tougher like bark is essential to protecting us from things that come to destroy us. Only then can we sprout branches, leaves and fruit. Bearing good fruit is God's plan for us all. If we desire to be like a tree, we must follow these stages to completion.

***Matt. 12:33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit.***