

## [Roots] Group Questions

### [Roots] Developing Good Roots

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**BIG IDEA:** “Roots: Growing A Life that Lasts”: Roots are an anchor in the soil to provide stability and a firm base for the entire structure of the trunk, branches, leaves and fruit. Roots absorb water and nutrients needed for growth. The same is true for Christ-followers. Unless we are rooted and grounded in an abiding faith in Christ, we wither beneath the weight of life’s challenges. “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” Colossians 2:6-7. So how do we create a life that lasts? The most effective way is to immerse ourselves in God’s word and live in a place of surrender, striking our roots deep into life-giving soil and living waters of Christ.

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**ICE BREAKER:** Gardeners know that the health and vitality of a plant depends on whether the root is tapped into the proper water and nutrient source. When was the last time you tackled something physically (i.e., weight loss, working out, etc.) that stretched you? What were the sacrifices? What were the benefits gained? What about spiritually?

1. **READ John 12:24.** What does it take to grow? Jesus is talking about dying to self. Describe something you wanted so badly you were willing to make a sacrifice for? Did you get there? Was the process comfortable? What about your Christian walk? Is it comfortable?
  2. **READ Galatians 6:7-8.**
  3. **What kind of seeds are you planting? What do you expect? When do you plant? Where does it take you and to whom? When do you plant the seeds of the gospel? How are you cultivating them?**
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#### Scripture:

- **John 12:24**

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

- **Galatians 6:7-8**

7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

#### FOR REFLECTION:

- **Psalms 1:1-6**

1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; 2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; 6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

- **Colossians 2:5-7**

5 For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. 6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** Roots generally grow in the direction where the correct environment of air, mineral nutrients and water exists to meet a plant’s needs. The main function of roots is to anchor the plant. Eighty percent of all plant problems start with root problems. What are you grounded in and is it feeding you spiritually?

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**More Information:** Comments, questions and notes are taken from: The Bible, blueletterbible.org, biblegateway.com.

If you have any comments, suggestions, **life-change** stories, or feedback to give regarding these questions or your group please email [lesa@midwaychurch.com](mailto:lesa@midwaychurch.com).