

**Sermon Outline** - Sun, April 25th, 2021 – There is Something About Trees....  
(Job 14:7-9; Jeremiah 17:7-8)

Overview: This is our final week leaning into our exploration of roots. We started out on Easter looking at Jesus as the root of our faith. Even as he was crucified and cut down he gave us the power to be shoots. Then we looked how Jesus was deeply rooted in Judaism even as the Christian tradition has

Story Exegesis

- Both Job and Jeremiah are thinking about trees in tough times. Job's life has fallen apart Jeremiah is trying to bring a message no one wants to hear.

Key Points – Why Stay Close to the Source?

1. **Trees that intend to live long and go the distance grow deep roots.** Often those trees have shallow above ground growth in the early years because they are spend their energy to grow deep roots.
2. **Deep roots often come from tough conditions.** Trees that live in places where they may have to sustain periods of low rain, know to go deep.
3. **Good roots branch out far beyond the canopy we see.** There is also a threat that your leaves will wilt and not be able to sustain growth. Wilt = those times when we are stuck, not moving forward or growing. Without water the leaves are not able to make the sugar that allows the tree to thrive. Wilting trees are alive but they are not growing.

Core Questions –

1. Are you living your life for the long haul or just for the moment? Who do you want to be at the end of your days and how are you growing the kinds of roots that will sustain you?
2. If you have been through some tough times, what roots did you grown in that time? If you are going through a tough time right now, how can you focus on root development?
3. If you have grown deep down, in what ways are you called to grow beyond your canopy and your place of comfort? What new connections and experiences are you called to lean into?