

The steady faith of a thankful Heart

John 15:5 NKJV

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love
Ephesians 3:17 NKJV

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building 1 Corinthians 3:9
NKJV

According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the
foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it 1
Corinthians 3:10 NKJV

Here is the result of abiding, rooted and building our lives in Christ Jesus

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night Psalm 1:2 NKJV

He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose
leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper Psalm 1:3 NKJV

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him Colossians 2:6 NKJV

rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it
with thanksgiving Colossians 2:7 NKJV

Keeping it in context

Paul wrote to the believers in Colossae, a small city in Asia Minor, to address **false teachings** that
combined elements of Jewish legalism, Greek philosophy, and mysticism

His focus here is to anchor believers in **Christ alone**, not **human tradition** or **spiritual speculation**

Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words Colossians 2:4 NKJV

For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order
and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ Colossians 2: 5 NKJV

In **verses 6–7**, Paul shifts from theology to application

Paul now calls believers to live out what they've already received which is Jesus Himself

Received (παρελάβετε / parelabete) = means to take hold of or accept something that has been
handed down

Paul reminds them that faith in Christ was **received**, not invented, passed through **apostolic
teaching**, not mystical discovery

The starting point is **receiving Christ Jesus**

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord

Grace, the Christian life **begins not with effort, but with receiving**. Christ Himself is the gift

Paul reminds us that we **didn't discover Christ; we received Him** through faith and grace

You **didn't earn salvation; don't try to maintain it by performance**

Keep your walk rooted in the same grace that saved you

Remember **what you've received, not what you've achieved**

Never forget where **your walk began**, or **who guided you** there, that's why we walk

Walk (περιπατεῖτε / peripateite) literally means **to walk about, continual motion, live, act, move**, think in step with Christ

In Paul's letters, it refers to **daily conduct or lifestyle**

The tense implies ongoing action, keep on walking in Him

Salvation **is received** in a moment, but walking in Christ is a lifetime

Faith is not static; it's a journey through every terrain of life

Don't just believe in Jesus, live in Jesus

2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV says For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Rooted and built up in Him

Paul mixes two metaphors, one from nature **rooted** and one from construction **built**

Rooted (ἐρριζωμένοι / errizōmenoi) = this word is a **perfect participle**, meaning the action is completed with continuing results

Rooted speaks of **stability and nourishment**, a **constant living connection to Christ**

Believers **have already been planted in Christ**, and the roots continue to draw nourishment from Him

Built up (ἐποικοδομούμενοι / epikodomoumenoi) = a **present participle**, meaning "**being built up**" continually or constantly

This describes spiritual growth as an ongoing process, a structure rising on a firm foundation

How? Stay connected to the **Word, Prayer and Church**; that's where your roots feed

Let God **build** you **through time**, testing, and truth

Please, please don't envy someone else's progress; your roots grow in your own soil

Here is Iron River, it gets very cold. Trees survive the harshest winters not by resisting the cold, but by digging its roots deep where warmth still flows beneath the frost line

rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving Colossians 2:7 NKJV

established (βεβαιούμενοι / bebaioumenoi) = means to make firm or confirm, proven trustworthy through experience

established in the faith, as you have been taught

Spiritual maturity is learning to stand firm when others drift

Doctrine matters. **Faith grows in the soil of truth**

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming Ephesians 4:14 NIV

The overflow of maturity

Abounding (περισσεύοντες / perisseuontes) = overflowing like a river in flood season

Gratitude isn't a trickle; it's a sign of life and spiritual health

It carries the picture of **something so full that it spills over**, not just possessing faith

Having faith so alive, so deep, that it expresses itself outwardly in joy and gratitude

Paul is saying this, as believers grows in Christ **rooted, built up, established**

That this growth should naturally lead to a life **overflowing with thanksgiving**, not stagnant, not minimal, but vibrant and overflowing

Abounding faith is not passive belief, it's **active gratitude**

It reflects a heart so convinced of Christ's sufficiency that thanksgiving overflows even in hardship.

The idea ties beautifully to **John 10:10 NKJV I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly**

Paul's letter flows is both poetically and progressive

Reception **You have received Christ Jesus the Lord**

Obedience **So walk in Him**

Stability **Rooted and built up in Him**

Confirmation **Established in the faith**

Overflow **Abounding in thanksgiving**

This builds an incredibly vivid picture of spiritual maturity

You go from receiving salvation to living it out in grateful, growing faith

When the seasons of life grow cold, gratitude keeps the heart warm

The deeper your roots in Christ, the steadier your faith in the storm, and the brighter your thankfulness in the dark.

Application and action...

- Keep Walking: Faith isn't a one-time decision; it's a daily direction. Walk in Christ the same way you received Him , by grace, through faith
- Stay Rooted: Don't let culture, comfort, or confusion uproot you. Stay anchored in Scripture and prayer
- Build on the Right Foundation: Let your spiritual growth rest entirely on Christ, not performance or popularity.
- Overflow with Gratitude: A thankful heart is evidence of deep roots. Gratitude turns theology into worship.

Theological Themes

- Union with Christ: Every phrase ("**in Him**") points to our total dependence on Christ for life, growth, and strength.
- Sanctification: Spiritual maturity is not instant; it's a process of continual building and rooting in the truth.
- Gratitude as Maturity's Mark: Thankfulness isn't optional; it's the overflow of a healthy, rooted faith.
- Sound Doctrine: "As you were taught" emphasizes that growth happens through the steady intake of biblical truth.