

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Rooted
Message: Why Roots Matter
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: September 11, 2022

Jesus offers us the awesome privilege of having a personal relationship with Him. Choosing to follow Him allows us to experience a brand-new life from the inside out.

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

While we are offered this great privilege, the responsibility to act on it is up to us. Our choice to humbly follow Jesus is just that – our choice. We are surrounded by distractions and excuses for why we don't, but at the end of the day we are responsible for our life choices.

Take some time now to honestly reflect on where you are currently with Christ. Read Jesus' explanation of the parable of the soils and roots and consider where you are right now. Is it where you want to be? Is it living fully the life God offers?

¹⁴ The farmer plants seed by taking God's word to others. ¹⁵ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away. ¹⁶ The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷ But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. ¹⁸ The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God's word, ¹⁹ but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced. ²⁰ And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!

Mark 4:14–20 (NLT)

As you evaluate where you are, please make the decision to join our New Hope community in the Rooted series by catching each service and participating in a Small Group. If you aren't currently in a group, we will be glad to assist you. Just go to:

<https://nhclorton.churchcenter.com/people/forms/419708>.

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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My personal choices determine the quality of my relationship with God and others.

⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness. ⁸ Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.

Colossians 2:6–8 (NLT)

Healthy roots are essential.

³ "Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. ⁴ As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it. ⁵ Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn't have deep roots, it died. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain. ⁸ Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they sprouted, grew, and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted!" ⁹ Then he said, "Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand."

Mark 4:3–9 (NLT)

If I choose to, I can build a deep, growing, and contagious relationship with God.

Question: What wise choice will I make today?