

*“...So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”*

***Ephesians 3:17-18***

As I reflect back on my adult years, I can remember many up and down times. The up times seemed full of so much promise and opportunity that provided me with endless energy and an “I can take on the world attitude.” The down times were pretty much the complete opposite.

It took some time but I started to realize that these times we go through are tests that God puts in front of us for us to hopefully learn from. For some of us it takes more lessons than others. I know I had to repeat some of life’s lessons from God because I wasn’t getting the whole point.

The point I see now is that just going to church is a good start, and I can thank my parents for providing me with a Christian home, but we need to do more to develop deeper roots, so we can weather the ups and down we will face in our lives. Looking back, I realize that my roots were not deep enough to deal with life to the best of my abilities and that I needed God’s help. We are not meant to go through life alone. We need to let go and let God take over.

By developing deeper roots in my faith, I have had to step out of my comfort zone. I started by getting involved in other activities with fellow Christians, spending quiet time reading God’s Word, talking to Him as my friend, and listening to what He has in store for me. And the best part has been sharing the love of God with others. It has been an awesome blessing to finally let God be in charge and to know that my roots are getting deeper with each new day that I spend developing my roots of faith.

*Dear God, Thank You for loving us even when we do not fully rely on You. Help us to develop deeper roots in our faith. Amen.*

**Tom Bennett**  
(Submitted in 2008)

