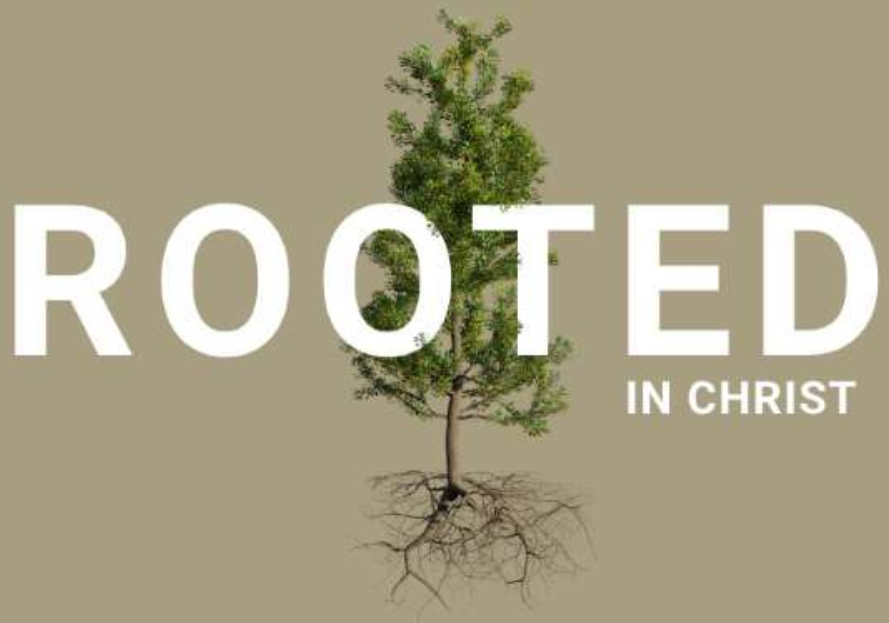
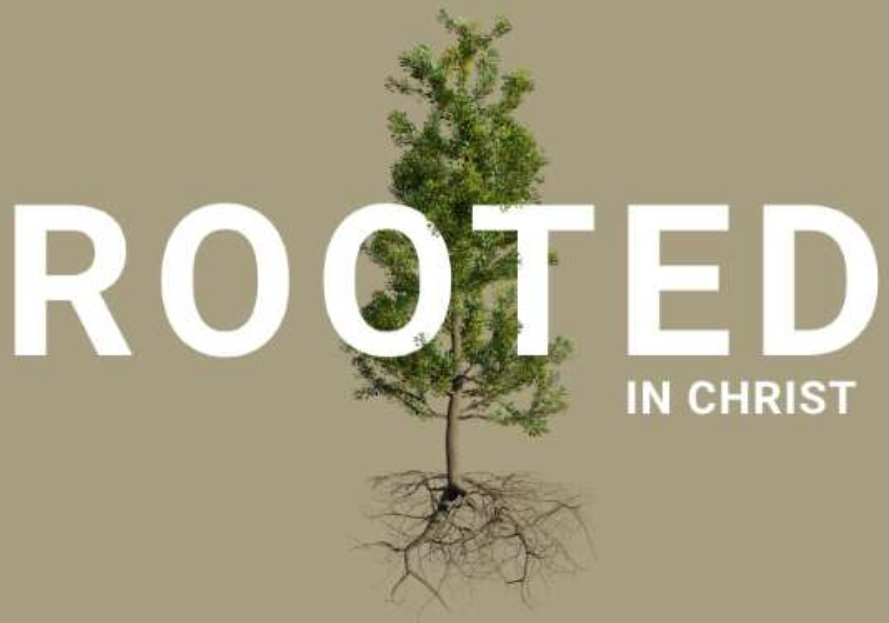


A Higher Perspective:

Living above the Fray

Colossians 3:1-9



Look Up

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth" (3:1-2)

A Conditional Adverbial Conjunction

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- "**If** then you have been raised with Christ …"
  - Can be translated: if, since, or because
  - Two subordinate clauses that follow demonstrate whether or not the condition is true in a person's life
- **How do you know if a person has been raised with Christ?**
  - They seek the things above
  - They set their mind on things above

Two Different Words Used

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- **Seek** *(zēteō)*—To look intently, to search diligently. It describes an all-out investigation or pursuit.
- **Set** *(phroneō)*—To think appropriately, to set your mind upon, to be clearly focused.

Steve's paraphrase

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

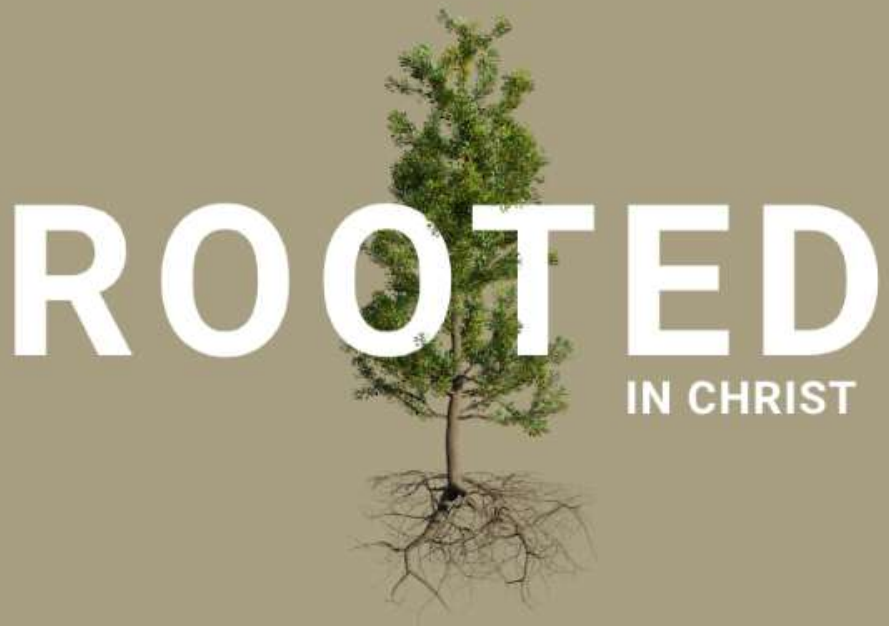
"Pursue things from above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Keep your mind focused on these things, rather than worldly things." (Col 3:1-2)

Philippians 4:8

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think *(logizomai)* about these things.”

(ESV)



Look Back

"For you have <u>died</u>, and your life is <u>hidden</u> with Christ in God" (3:3)

Two Things to Remember

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- **You died with Christ**
  - What do you do with a dead body?
  - You bury it

Colossians 2:12-14

ROOTED IN CHRIST

“Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses … God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us …This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.” (ESV)

Romans 6:3-6

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life … We know that our old self was crucified with him … so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.” (ESV)

Two Things to Remember

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- You died with Christ
- **Your life is <u>hidden</u> with Christ**
  - What does it mean to be hidden?
  - Protected, safe, secure

Hidden *(kryptō)*

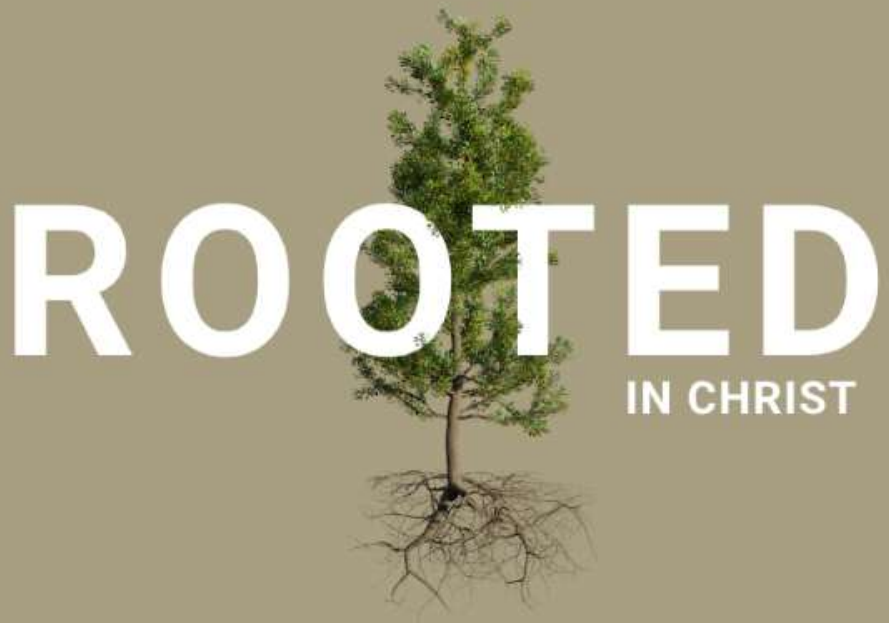
ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- Protected, safe, secure

Romans 8:35-39

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (ESV)



Look Ahead

"When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory" (3:4)

Revelation 21:1-4

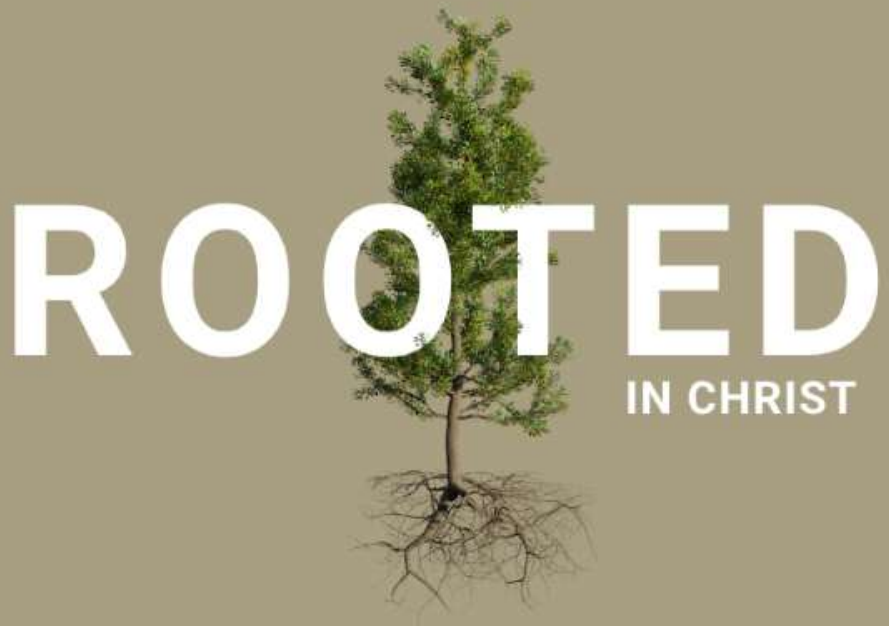
ROOTED IN CHRIST

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth … And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” (ESV)

John 14:1-4

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” (ESV)



Look Out

"Put to death therefore what is earthly in you …"

(3:5)

Colossians 3:5-9

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.”

(ESV)

Three Categories

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- **Things that destroy character** (3:5-6)
  - **Sexual immorality** *(porneia)*—describes every type of sexual sin outside of marriage
  - **Impurity** *(akatharsia)*—immorality, cruelty, malice
  - **Passion** *(pathos)*—passion of a sexual nature
  - **Evil desire** *(kakos epithymia)*—desiring things that are morally wrong, bad and harmful to others
  - **Covetousness** *(pleonexia)*—greed, avarice (a desire to gain things at any cost)

Three Categories

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- Things that destroy character (3:5-6)
- **Things that destroy relationships** (3:8)
  - **Anger** *(orgē)*—indignation
  - **Wrath** *(thymos)*—rage
  - **Malice** *(kakia)*—depravity, wickedness
  - **Slander** *(blasphēmia)*—abusive speech, blasphemy

Galatians 5:22-23

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” (ESV)

Three Categories

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- Things that destroy character (3:5-6)
- Things that destroy relationships (3:8)
- **Things that destroy integrity and trust** (9-10)
  - **Obscene talk** *(aischrologia)*—shameful, obscene, or abusive speech
  - **Lying** *(pseudomai)*—false speech

Reminders

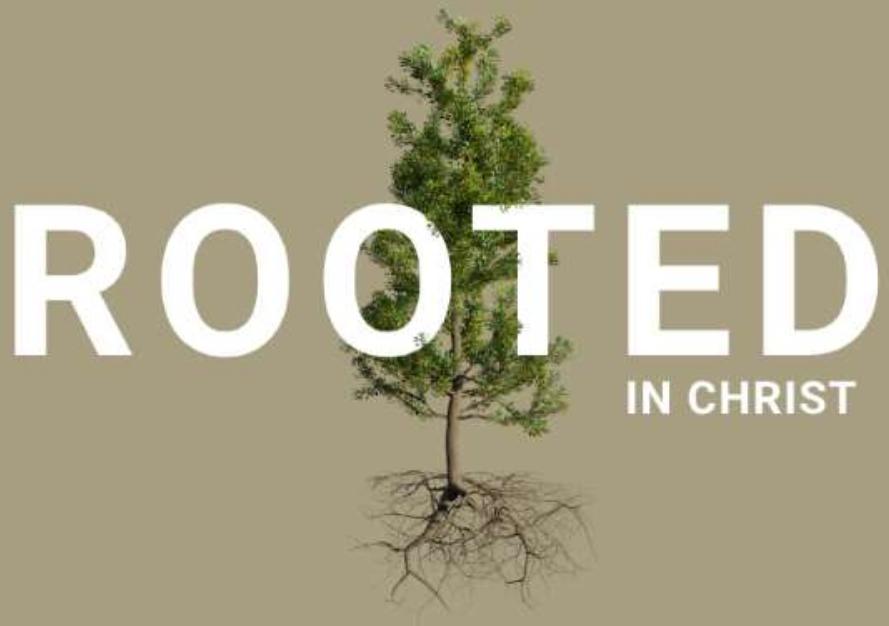
ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- Removal is important (take off)
- Replacement is necessary (put on)
- You cannot do this by yourself. Christ's help is essential (both through his Holy Spirit and through his church)

Reasons for a Higher Perspective

ROOTED IN CHRIST

- We have died to our old way of life (3)
- We are hidden (safe and protected) in Christ (3)
- Christ is our life (4)
- Jesus will come again (4)
- We will appear with him in glory (4)



A Higher Perspective:
Living Above the Fray

Paul is calling us “higher” in Christ Jesus

Next steps

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- I am thankful that Jesus came and gave me life abundantly.
- I will focus my eyes on things above rather than _____.
- With the help of Christ and my church family, I will put to death the things that destroy.
- I will surrender my life to Jesus through baptism.