Dear Open Door Family,

Which would you rather be, solid as an oak or solid as a tumble weed? Which is more likely to be stable and secure, the oak or the tumble weed? Don't get me wrong I think tumbleweeds are cool - down in Liberal KS they fly across the road driven by the wind and you can have fun trying to miss them. But when it comes to stability, security, I'd rather be like an oak tree not a tumbleweed. In these verses Paul challenges us to sink our roots down deeply into our Lord Jesus Christ. Let's look at them together.

Colossians 2:6-7 *(NIV) So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, [7] rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

Colossians 2:6-7 *(NLT) And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. 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.*

Colossians 2:6 *(JBP) Just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so go on living in him - in simple faith.*

When we accepted Jesus as our Savior by Faith we are trusting in HIM and only Him for our salvation. The next step in our growth and progress is to continue living BY Faith. To Live by Faith will require a conscious, daily, ongoing, submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. As we choose to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice each day, our roots will sink deeper into the Lord Jesus. It is only as we allow our roots to be firmly planted and grounded in our Lord through our times of meditating on His Word (Psalm 1) that we will be able to stand against the pressures and difficulties which hammer against our faith.

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, I waver between Faith and Fear, Faith and Doubt. Please help me to Trust YOU. Please Lord, help me to Trust You for every minute of each day. May I not falter through doubt or fear, but hang on with grim determination if necessary. Please help to be thankful no matter what the circumstances or my feelings may try to dictate.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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