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What kind of roots do you have?

authority

and sufficiency

What kind of roots do you have?

of the Word

What kind of roots do you have?

Roots!

Everybody's got them,
they run below the surface of our lives
anchored in the soil of that which we trust in,
drinking from the underground rivers
of that which nourishes our souls.

Fruits!

Everybody's got them,
fresh, full of sweet sap, and tasty,
or hard, diseased and bitter.
What kind of fruits do you have?...

What kind of roots do you have?

A ROOTS PICTURE

Read Psalm 1 Draw a picture of what is described in verses 2 and 3.

the life that God makes a blessing

Look at your picture and answer these questions. What is the tree? What are the roots? What is the water? What is seen? What is unseen? How does this all correspond to the spiritual life? What does it mean to “delight in the Word”?

A ROOTS PRACTICE

The person who wrote Psalm 119 was firmly rooted in God's Word. They found the Word to be the ultimate authority for their lives and sufficient to meet all their needs. Pick a section of at least 16 verses in Psalm 119 and discover the authority and sufficiency of the Word in the Psalmist's life. [A third sheet is included in case you want to study more than 16 verses, a possible future study project would be to copy off the sheet so that you could look at all 176 verses!]

authority- the power to judge, act, or command.
Random House
College Dictionary

sufficient- as much as is needed; enough; adequate
American Heritage
Dictionary

Look at the verses and find answers to these questions in these six categories:

- JUDGMENTS- How does the Word enable the Psalmist to discern right and wrong?
- ACTIONS- What does the Word do in the Psalmist's life?
- COMMANDS- What is expected from the Psalmist as a response to the Word?
- EMOTIONAL NEEDS- How does the Word touch the Psalmist emotionally?
- PERSONAL NEEDS- What benefits does the Psalmist receive from attachment to the Word?
- SPIRITUAL NEEDS- What does the Psalmist pray about because of the Word?

verse: **JUDGMENTS** **ACTIONS** **COMMANDS** **EMOTIONAL NEEDS** **PERSONAL NEEDS** **SPIRITUAL NEEDS**

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PSALM 119

JUDGMENTS

How does the Word distinguish right & wrong?

ACTIONS

What does the Word do in the Psalmist's life?

COMMANDS

What is expected as a response to the Word?

EMOTIONAL NEEDS

How does the Word touch the Psalmist emotionally?

PERSONAL NEEDS

What benefits the Psalmist from the Word?

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

What does the Psalmist pray?

VERSE:

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PSALM 119

JUDGMENTS

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What benefits the Psalmist from the Word?

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

What does the Psalmist pray?

VERSE:

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A ROOTS PRACTICE

From looking at Psalm 119, you've discovered where the Psalmist was rooted. How about you, is the Word authoritative and sufficient in your life? In Psalm 119:106 the Psalmist prays this prayer, "I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws." Have you ever in your life made the personal commitment to God that His Word would be the authority and sufficiency of your life? What would your oath to God be concerning His Word. Who could you share that oath with to confirm it in your heart and mind?

A ROOTS PERSON

Read Matthew 4:1-11. What does Jesus do when the authority and sufficiency of His life are attacked by the enemy? What is His authority and how does He get His needs met? What can we learn from this as followers of Jesus?

Jesus, of course was the most rooted person who ever lived. His roots went so deep that they are still bearing fruit. Jesus was radically committed to the Scriptures and as His followers we can do no less. If we would bear His fruit, we must have His roots. What specifically do you need to do to become a person who is more deeply rooted in God and His Word?