

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



GROUNDED

It is not often one sees such a well-formed tree growing horizontal to the original trunk and looking so healthy. Normally I would expect the crown of a tree of that size to be resting on the ground. Also, all the growth is pointing upward as if even though it had at some stage been bent over and the direction changed it still searched upward as it grew. Obviously, the tree has its roots firmly rooted in the soil that is wrapped around its roots; loose soil and long ago it would have blown over and away.

About sixty-four years after Jesus' death on the cross and his coming alive again, Paul a new follower of Jesus wrote these words to followers of Jesus in Ephesus, "I bow in prayer to the Father because of my work among you. I pray that he will use his glorious riches to make you strong. May his Holy Spirit give you his power deep down inside you. Then Christ will live in your hearts because you believe in him. And I pray that your love will have deep roots. I pray that it will have a strong foundation. May you have power together with all the Lord's holy people to understand Christ's love. May you know how wide and long and high and deep it is. And may you know his love, even though it can't be known completely. Then you will be filled with everything God has for you. **(Ephesians 3:14,16 -19)**

If you are firmly rooted in, surrounded, by God's forgiving love when life blows troubles, and doubts against you, you can be sure that as long as you keep in contact with God's love He will always keep feeding into your life all you need to have the strength to stand firm and continue to trust Him, and not have your faith blown over and away from Him, even when tempted to say, "This is too hard" and want to give in and lie down get and draw on His strength when temptations and troubles try to blow us over.

Remember whenever you start to get "blown over" by life pressures you can talk to God and Tell Him "God, I know you love me. Can you please pack your love more tightly around me and keep me safe and strong so I can grow into the person you have planned for me to be". He would love that because He clearly says, "Call on Me in the day of trouble and I will rescue you, and you will glorify me" **(Psalm 50:15)** And knowing how much God loves you, He will be smiling while He does it. God bless you,
Kevin.