BE A TREE, NOT A SHRUB

September 28, 2025

KEY SCRIPTURE

- Jeremiah 17:5–10
- Psalm 1:1–3
- Proverbs 29:25
- Lamentations 3:25–26
- John 15:5

KEY POINTS

- Trust in man or self leads to dryness and isolation.
- Trust in the Lord leads to life, stability, and fruitfulness.
- God tests our hearts in trials to reveal where we place our trust.
- Fear of man is a trap that keeps us bound.
- Confession and honesty before God bring freedom and healing.
- Waiting on the Lord is not wasted time—it grows faith and intimacy.
- Even in drought, those rooted in God remain green and fruitful.
- True blessedness is internal and comes from God, not circumstances.

DISCUSSION

- Jeremiah compares the one who trusts in man to a shrub in the desert. What does this imagery say about the results of misplaced trust?
- What does it mean to be a tree “planted by water” in your daily walk with God?
- In what areas of life are you tempted to lean on your own strength instead of trusting God?
- How has fear of what others think (“fear of man”) affected your ability to trust God?
- Share a time when waiting on the Lord produced growth in your faith.
- How can we encourage each other to stay rooted in God during “drought” seasons?