

Life Group Notes

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Speaker:** Dalene Reyburn

**Title:** Jeremiah: Roots Determine Routes

**Passage:** Jeremiah 17:5-10

**Wow Trees:** Some trees are "wow" trees, with lush green leaves as described in verse 8. We would all like our lives to be like the tree described in this verse, but life does not always turn out that way.



**Oops Trees:** We are more like oops trees, the stunted shrubs described in verses 5 and 6. Sin has ruined our hearts and our lives, whether our own sin or someone else's sin. And so, instead of living as a wow tree, we tend to more honestly have lives resembling the oops tree.



**Shh Trees:** The Shh tree is the tree that has a deep taproot reaching to an underground water source. This tree thrives in a harsh environment and prospers despite its surroundings. It's roots silently, gradually, patiently, secretly reach down to the hidden water source. Jesus Christ was like the Shh tree, remarkably enduring despite hostility, with a deep relationship with his father. And we are called to abide in Christ, to find our life in him.



**Suggested Questions:**

1. Which of the three trees do you most identify with, and why?
2. How does sin ruin lives?
3. How was Jesus' life different? How did he endure despite hostile circumstances?
4. What does it mean to put your roots down deep into Christ? How are you doing in your secret, hidden devotional life?
5. Pray for one another.