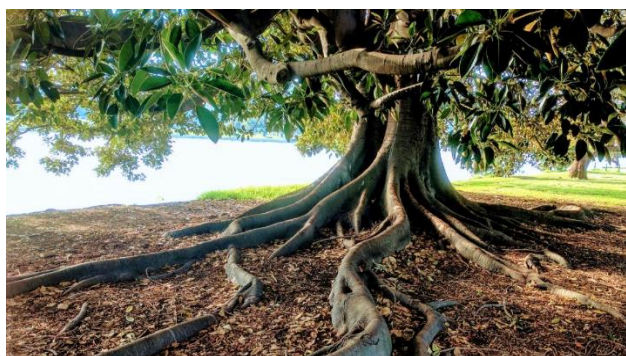


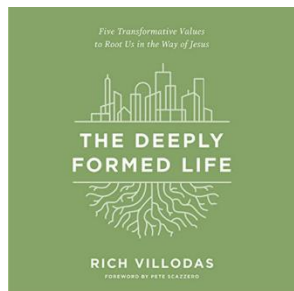
Common Ground Family,

Over the past couple months, I have noticed something happening in my neighborhood and maybe you've noticed it too. On my drive to and from the office I have been noticing limbs, and sometimes entire trees, just randomly fallen over. Trees that otherwise looked healthy and strong, turned out to be weak and stressed. From a distance everything appeared fine, but up close and below the surface there were cracks forming, and roots starving for water.



Sometimes (perhaps more often than we care to admit) our lives can resemble those trees. On the surface everything appears fine, but closer examination reveals cracks that are forming and a dryness in our roots. We live just on the edge of 'ok', but the slightest disruption can lead to moments of failure or even a complete collapse. **Like trees, we need healthy and deep roots that will not only sustain us in the storms and long droughts of life, but also lead to lives that produce great fruit!**

Our upcoming sermon series is aimed at growing a deep and healthy spiritual root system that will not only help us withstand the many trials of life, but actually thrive in the midst of them! The new series is called The Deeply Formed Life, and is based on the book of the same title by Rich Villodas.



The series will begin on Sunday, October 16 and we will explore important topics and practices that will deepen our faith and produce great fruit. **My hope is that you and I will grow deeper in our faith together.**

Let's Grow Deep!
Pastor Scott



PS: If you like, you can also pick up a copy of the book! We will have some available to purchase already this Sunday at a discount (\$10). If we run out, you can sign up to get a copy or order one yourself. Hope you'll join us each Sunday, in person or online.

