

Colossians 2:6-7

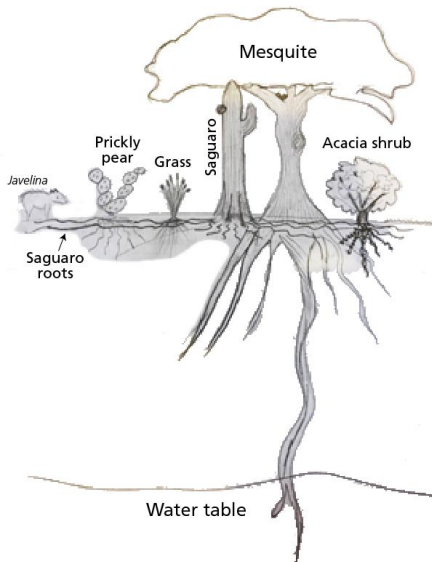
So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to *live your lives in him*, **rooted** and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Isaiah 33:6

He [YHWH] will be the sure **foundation** for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge;

Luke 6:47-48

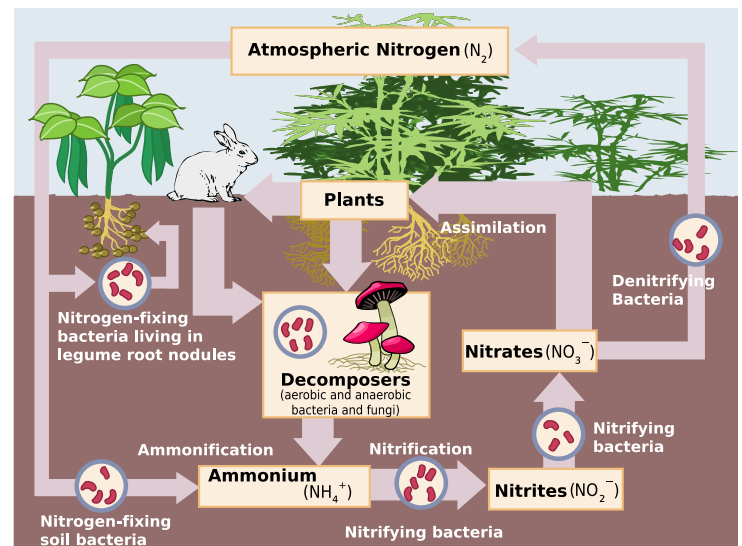
As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the **foundation** on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.



The mesquite tree's roots grow deeper during droughts, seeking out ground water deep below the earth. Their roots can reach more than 150 feet into the ground. This allows them to withstand long droughts and heavy winds.

When cut to the ground, the tree can often recover.

Mesquites are legumes, making them one of the few sources of fixed nitrogen in the desert habitat. They take nitrogen from the air and transfer it into the soil. This fixed nitrogen is essential for all plant life to grow.



Their fruits, known as "mesquite pods", are dry and often sweet, edible for humans and livestock, and were a staple food for indigenous peoples in the deserts of North America. Once dried, the whole pod can be ground into flour and made into bread or tortillas.

Bees pollinate mesquite flowers, which produces the mesquite pods. The flowers' nectar and pollen are a key food source for insects and the pods are a key food source for animals. Mesquites are crucial in providing the foundation of the entire food web in a desert climate.



Mesquite trees are one of the few shade-producing plants in the hot, dry desert.

Mesquites create forests called *bosques* (bos-KAYS)



None of this would happen without being rooted in a strong foundation.

(And none of it would happen without the droughts that forced the roots to grow deeper for nourishment)

Live your life in [Jesus], **rooted** and built up in him.