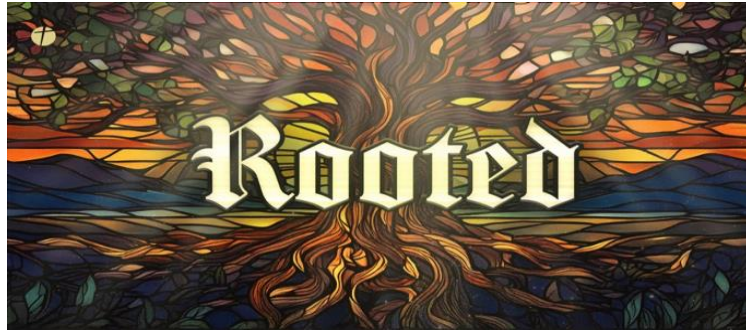


June 21, 2026



Rooted – Week 2 – Challenging Men
“**Build, Shield, and Sharpen**”

Psalm 127:1-5 NIV

*¹ Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.*

*² In vain you rise early and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves.*

*³ Children are a heritage from the LORD,
offspring a reward from him.*

*⁴ Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are children born in one's youth.*

*⁵ Blessed is the man
whose quiver is full of them.*

*They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their opponents in court.*

Psalm 128:1-4 NIV

*¹ Blessed are all who fear the LORD,
who walk in obedience to him.*

*² You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.*

*³ Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.*

*⁴ Yes, this will be the blessing
for the man who fears the LORD.*

“The Christian life for a man has been melted down to restrained desire.” -Jon Tyson

I. Building

- Focus more on building what will last, not what you'll leave behind.
- Remember, God is the ultimate builder. So if God's not in it, it will crumble. (v.2)

- Let this be the year that you focus & prioritize spiritual growth more than financial growth, professional growth, or personal growth.

II. Shielding

- Protecting and providing for a family takes tremendous trust in God and dependence on Him.

- Start with shielding yourself from unrighteousness, then lead out in that for your family.

- Fight to stay connected to the two vines. (John 15:5, Psalm 128:3)

III. Sharpening

Proverbs 22:6 ESV

*Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

- Not everything you teach your children will stick.
But what sticks is usually what you prioritize.

- Encouragement from a wife or a child can strengthen the soul of a father.

A Father's Plan to Stay Sharp:

- Stay close to the cross
- Depend deeply on God
- Pay attention to your reactions
- Practice spiritual disciplines
- Fight the drift with your priorities