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SMYRNA-VININGS, GA, USA
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PLANTED BY THE WATER

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1

Again, All About the Lord

Psalm 1:2-3 (NIV)
But whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither - whatever they do prospers.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NIV)
7 But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.
8 They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green.

Last week, we were encouraged to trust in the Lord, for He is the only one to turn to - our shield and the one who lifts our heads, enabling us to hope for a better future in our world today. Both the Psalmist and the Prophet Jeremiah described those who trust and place their full confidence in the Lord as being like a tree planted by water. This powerful spiritual metaphor encourages every believer to draw closer to God daily. This imagery speaks of a life that is consistently nourished, able to yield fruit, and remain resilient regardless of the surrounding circumstances. Both writers described what they had tasted and experienced, and they wrote with deep conviction.

2

Draw Near to God

James 4:8 (NKJV)
8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

A person "planted by the water" receives spiritual nourishment and stability, thriving even when the world around them is dry. They draw strength from the Lord rather than relying on human resources. Such a person yields fruit and remains resilient because the Everlasting Lord is with them. Through prayer and reliance on God, they are offered protection, stability, and faithfulness, no matter the uncertainties of this world. This metaphor encourages us to draw closer to God each day - an intentional, reciprocal pursuit of intimacy with Him through prayer, praise, worship, scripture study, and repentance. It also calls for humility, loving God wholeheartedly, and loving our neighbors. As a believer moves closer to God, He actively responds with His presence. Just as a tree draws near to the water and is nourished, so are we sustained by God. May we always seek to draw near to Him. Amen!

3