



“No!” Nora cried, but it was too late. Joey had already poured his drink into the pot. The tree’s leaves quivered, and then it went even droopier than before.

“I know!” Joey said. “I’ll give it some of my energy drink!”

Professor Owlester came walking
into the room.

“Good morning, class!” he said.

“What’s going on?”

“My tree is sick!” Nora said.

“And I don’t know why!”



“Remember what I told you yesterday, Nora?” the professor asked. “Trees need three things to grow.”

Nora tried to remember. What had the professor said?





“To grow big and strong, trees need sunlight, water, and . . . oh, I remember now! Good soil!”

Nora looked at her droopy tree in the small pot.

“I need to move this baby tree outside! If it’s going to grow big and tall, it needs to grow big roots down into good soil!”



“It’s a lot like growing in faith,”
Nora said as the other owls helped
her dig a hole in the playground.



“If we want our faith in Jesus to grow big and
strong, we need to grow roots into the right
soil by praying and reading God’s Word!”

Nora and her friends
put the baby tree in
the hole and filled it
with soil. Then Nora
gave the tree
some water.



The tree perked
up and began to
reach its leaves
toward the sun.



“You’ve got everything you
need now, little tree,” said Nora.
“Grow big and strong!”



FAMILY TIME

“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.”
— Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV)

TALK ABOUT THE STORY:

- › The Bible says to live our lives rooted in Jesus.
- › A tree's roots must grow before the tree can grow bigger and stronger.
- › Without a tree's roots, it would tip over no matter how big and strong the rest of it is.
- › For a tree's roots to grow, it needs water, sunlight and healthy soil.
- › Jesus takes care of us and gives us everything we need to grow in our faith.
- › How does Jesus take care of you?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Thank you, God, for all you have blessed us with and teaching us your way. Help us to grow closer to you and each other. Amen.

MAKE SOMETHING:

1. Paint your hand and wrist with brown paint.
2. Lay your hand and wrist down on white construction paper, to make an outline of a tree.
3. After washing your hand and wrist, dip your fingertips in green, red, orange, or yellow paint. Use the paint on your fingertips to make leaves all around your tree.
4. After washing your hands and letting the paint dry, use markers to add grass and animals that live by your tree.
5. Write “God Helps Us Grow” at the top of your artwork.

You now have a beautiful, healthy tree like the one Nora planted! Share it with someone you love and tell them about what it means to you to be rooted in Christ.

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