How the Lifestyle of Worship Builds up the Body of Christ.

"And you shall be called 'oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord,' that He may be glorified." -From Isaiah 61:1-3

The Branches, Leaves and Fruit:

Here's how we can understand this analogy: The branches, leaves, and fruit represent the *act* of worship- that is, the **expressions** of worship. All worship demands expression.   So does real love or real faith. In fact, "faith without works is *dead*.". *(James 2:17)*   Think about this: leaves of a tree actually *eat* light! That is a process called photosynthesis.   When we lead people in *expressing* their faith to God, new life happens! Wonderful things can follow as a direct result. True expressiveness of faith is natural to the child of God from the moment they receive Christ *(Gal.4:6 ; Ps.95:1)* It's our job to show them how!

The Roots:

The scriptural truth of who God is -combined with our corresponding faith. *Like roots mixed with the soil.* Consequently to be a great worshiper, you have to be a great student of the Word.   He *is* the Word, so to truly know Him, you have to hunger for and know the Word of God. {As a sidebar, when God "moves" prophetically, the Holy Spirit is most often going to bring scriptures, or portions of scriptures to the mind of the person bringing the message. *(John 14.26)* Thus the Word becomes alive in us to encourage the congregation. *(1 Cor.14:26-39)* }

All three of these parts depend on the other.

The Trunk:

This is where t*he maturity of a tree is measured*. In the secret place of the trunk! *(Is.30:15)* This can be understood as *revelation from God that causes maturity in the believer*. The greatest reward of true worship is that God uses it to reveal Christ *by the power of the Holy Spiri*t. *Revelation* of His promises is what makes us more Christ-like, more steadfast and unshakable by life's storms and persecutions. *(2 Peter 1:3-4)* So *worship* has everything to do *Christ changing us into mature, strong believers.* The Spirit-filled life! *(Eph.5:18-19)*