

HELEN SANDERS

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ROOTBOUND

I like to grow houseplants and other plants. I have started many avocados and one is now in my yard and is about 13 feet tall. It produced avocados for the first time this year. There is a feeling of accomplishment that this tree has grown. It started in a glass jar. The roots grow down first then a shoot grows up. The shoot will grow leaves and continue to grow taller. When the roots fill the jar, it has to be transplanted into a bigger pot because the plant will not grow if it is rootbound. Then, after it reaches a certain height, it will once again need to be transplanted because the roots are rootbound again. Eventually, in order for it to become a tree it has to be put into the ground with no restrictions to its growth. It takes time to go through the stages, but each is necessary to get the end results which is fruit.

I think we are a lot like plants. We are a seed planted in our mother's womb that grows until it is time for birth. Then against all obstacles when the pressure is applied, we come forth. Yet that is just the beginning. We can't stay in the baby stage, or we will be stunted for life. Sometimes we are uprooted from our natural mother and placed into an environment that is not familiar. This is never easy, but we can grow wherever God plants us.

Through our growth stage, there may be some cutting back, but when we get to a place where things seem comfortable often it is because we are rootbound. In order to grow more we have to be uprooted and placed in a different environment. It may seem really uncomfortable to be moved out of all that has been familiar, but in order for more growth to take place and fruit to come, this uprooting has to take place.

Do you find yourself at that place where you have been rootbound and God is letting you know that there is a new "growing season" for you? You have a choice when this takes place. You can stay where you are comfortable, or you can go with the change of being uprooted so you can grow. The whole process is done so you can be more fruitful. Painful? Yes. Necessary? Yes, but the end results are worth it.

The choice is ours. God never forces us to be uprooted. If you have been desiring more fruit in your life, don't be surprised when you are uprooted and transplanted into a "bigger pot" or to a place where there are no limits. My suggestion is "don't stay rootbound."