

Like a Tree

Douglas Yates — inspired by Psalm 1 • Key: G major • 94 BPM • 4/4

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INTRO (LONE VOICE, FINGERPICKED GUITAR, ONE MANDOLIN NOTE RINGING, UPRIGHT BASS EASING IN)

G **C** **D**
Blessed is the one, blessed is the one,
Em **G** **C** **G**
come on down to the water and the shade.
D **Em** **C**
Blessed is the one, blessed is the one,
D **G** **Am**
here is where the rooted life is made.

VERSE 1 (ADD UPRIGHT BASS AND SOFT BRUSHED SNARE, WARM AND CONVERSATIONAL)

C **D** **G**
Blessed is the one who will not walk
G **C** **D**
in the counsel of the proud,
Em **G** **C** **G**
who will not stand in the way of sinners,
D **Em** **C**
nor sit with the scornful crowd.
D **G** **Am** **C**
For his delight is in the law of the Lord,
D **G** **G**
by the day and through the night,
C **D** **Em** **G**
and the roots reach down where the river runs
C **G** **D**
to drink in the morning light.

PRE-CHORUS (BVS HUM UNDERNEATH, SNARE BRUSH SWELLS, THE BAND LEANS IN)

Em **C** **D** **G**
So come and drink from the river of the Word,

Am C D
let it feed you, deep and slow.

G G C D Em
For the ones who delight in the law of the Lord

G C G
stay green where the dry winds blow.

CHORUS (FULL BAND, FOOT-STOMP, GANG HARMONIES, BANJO ROLL)

D Em C D G
So plant us by the river, plant us by the stream,

Am C D G
down where the water's running and the roots grow deep.

G C D Em G
We'll bring forth our fruit in season, stay green through the dry,

C G D Em C
like a tree, like a tree by the water, reaching high.

D G Am
Planted by the river, we will not wither,

C D G G
we will grow, we will grow, we will grow.

VERSE 2 (BAND PULLS BACK TO GUITAR, MANDOLIN AND BASS, INTIMATE)

C D Em G
For my delight is in the law of the Lord,

C G D
morning and midnight I dwell on the Word.

Em C D G Am
I turn it over slow like a stone in a stream,

C D G G C
till it wears itself deep and it lives inside of me.

D Em G C G
And I am like a tree the Lord Himself has grown,

D Em C D
where the water runs deep and the seed was sown,

G Am C D
and whatever His hand puts my hand to do,

G G C D
He will carry it through, He will carry it through.

CHORUS (FULL BAND RETURNS, FOOT-STOMP, GANG HARMONIES)

Em G C G D
So plant us by the river, plant us by the stream,
Em C D G
down where the water's running and the roots grow deep.
Am C D G G
We'll bring forth our fruit in season, stay green through the dry,
C D Em G C
like a tree, like a tree by the water, reaching high.
G D Em
Planted by the river, we will not wither,
C D G Am
we will grow, we will grow, we will grow.

CHAFF VERSE (DRUMS DROP TO SOFT BRUSHES, SPARSE GUITAR, A HIGH LONESOME HARMONY FLOATS ABOVE)

C D G
But the wicked are not so, my friend,
G C D
they are chaff upon the breeze,
Em G C
here for a breath and gone by morning,
G D
scattered through the trees.
Em C D G
No root to hold them, no stream to feed them,
Am C
no ground beneath their feet,
D G G
they will not stand in the judgment,
C D Em
nor rise where the righteous meet.

BRIDGE (RHYTHM RETURNS, HAND-CLAPS AND BANJO BUILD, THE CHOICE MADE OUT LOUD)

G C G
Oh, there are two ways, only two,

D Em C
one will wither, one holds true.

D G Am C
The Lord knows the way of the righteous ones,

D G G
but the way of the wicked comes undone.

C D Em G C
So come in from the wind, come in from the storm,

G D Em C
there is room in the congregation, come and belong.

D G Am C
I'm choosing the river, and I start to run,

D G G
to the water, to the water,

C D Em
to the water, to the water.

FINAL CHORUS (BIGGEST LIFT, WHOLE ROOM, DOUBLE GANG HARMONIES, FOOT-STOMP AND HAND-CLAPS)

G C G D Em
So plant us by the river, plant us by the stream,

C D G Am
down where the water's running and the roots grow deep.

C D G G C
We'll bring forth our fruit in season, stay green through the dry,

D Em G C G
like a tree, like a tree by the water, reaching high.

D Em C
Planted by the river, we will not wither,

D G Am C
we will grow, we will grow, we will grow.

OUTRO (BAND THINS TO VOICES ALONE, THEN ONE LONE GUITAR TO FADE)

D G G C
Like a tree, like a tree by the water,

D Em G C
we will grow, we will grow, we will grow.

G **D** **Em** **C**
For the Lord, He knows the way of the righteous,

D **G** **Am**
and the rooted He will never let go.

C **D** **G** **G**
So blessed is the one, and blessed are we,

C **D** **Em**
planted by the water, like a tree.

G **C** **G**
Come on down to the water,

D **Em** **C**
blessed is the one, come and grow.