

Small Group Discussion + Leader Guide

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Preached By: Jake McMillan

“The Flourishing Life”

Summer in the Psalms Series #6

Psalms 92:1-15

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

Icebreaker Question: When you think of someone who is "flourishing" in life, who comes to mind and why? What characteristics do they display?

Key Passage

Read Psalm 92 together as a group.

Central Theme

Main Idea: Our lives will flourish over time, regardless of circumstances, if we remain rooted in the Lord.

Key Question: What does a life look like that truly flourishes in the Lord?

Discussion Questions

Section 1: Praise Continuously (verses 1-4)

1. The psalmist praised God continuously despite facing enemies and seeing the wicked prosper. What makes this kind of praise possible even in difficult circumstances?

2. The sermon mentioned three ways the psalmist expressed praise: thanksgiving, song/music, and proclamation. Which of these comes most naturally to you? Which is most challenging?
3. Reflect on verse 2: "To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning and Your faithfulness by night." What would it look like practically to maintain this continual state of praise in your daily routine?
4. Personal Reflection: Share a specific example of something God has done in your life that can be a source of enduring joy, even when circumstances are difficult.

Section 2: Perceive the Reality (verses 5-9)

5. The sermon contrasts the "grass-like" flourishing of the wicked with God's eternal plans. Why is it so easy to be fooled by temporary success and prosperity?
6. Verse 6 describes as "senseless" and "stupid" those who don't understand God's deeper plans. What are some areas where you're tempted to judge success by surface-level appearances rather than eternal perspective?
7. How does understanding that "God's thoughts are very deep" (v. 5) help you when you see injustice or when the wicked seem to prosper?
8. Application: What is one area of your life where you need to "look past the temporary and hold in mind the eternal plans of God"?

Section 3: Personally Strengthened (verses 10-11)

9. The psalmist says God has "exalted my horn like that of the wild ox" and "anointed me with fresh oil." In what areas of your life do you currently need God's strength and refreshment?
10. Matthew 23:12 teaches that God humbles the proud and exalts the humble. How do you see this principle playing out in Psalm 92? What does it mean to humble yourself before God?

11. The psalmist's perspective on his enemies changed from fear to confidence. Share a time when God changed your perspective on a difficult situation or person.

Section 4: Planted in God's Presence (verses 12-15)

12. The righteous are compared to palm trees and cedars of Lebanon rather than grass. What's the difference? Why does being "planted in the house of the Lord" make this kind of flourishing possible?
13. The sermon emphasizes that the righteous are planted "firmly" and "fruitfully," bearing fruit even in old age. What does long-term, sustained fruitfulness look like in the Christian life?
14. According to verse 15, the purpose of this flourishing is "to declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him." How does our flourishing serve as a testimony to others about God's character?

Key Takeaways

Write these down and discuss which one resonates most with your current season:

1. True flourishing is not determined by material success or pleasant circumstances, but by being rooted in the Lord.
2. Continuous praise flows from witnessing what God has done and remembering His character, not from perfect circumstances.
3. The prosperity of the wicked is temporary like grass; God's justice will prevail eternally.
4. God strengthens and refreshes those who humble themselves before Him.
5. Being planted in God's presence produces firm, fruitful, long-lasting spiritual vitality.

Practical Applications

Choose 1-2 to commit to this week:

For Continuous Praise:

- Start each morning by writing down three specific things you're thankful for
- Choose one worship song that ministers to you and play it daily
- Share with someone this week about something God has done in your life

For Perceiving Reality:

- When you're tempted to envy someone's success, pause and pray for eternal perspective
- Memorize Isaiah 55:8-9 to remind yourself that God's ways are higher than ours
- Journal about one situation where you need to trust God's deeper plans
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For Personal Strengthening:

- Identify one area where you need God's strength and commit it to prayer daily
- Practice humility by confessing an area of pride or self-reliance to a trusted friend
- Ask God to refresh you through His Word by committing to daily Scripture reading
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For Being Planted in God's Presence:

- Evaluate: What does "abiding in the vine" (John 15) look like practically for you?
- Commit to consistent corporate worship and small group attendance
- Identify one area where you see spiritual fruit and thank God for it
- Ask an older believer to share their testimony of God's faithfulness over time

Reflection Questions for the Week

Journal or meditate on these throughout the week:

1. How would my life look different if I truly believed that being rooted in God's presence is the key to flourishing?
2. What "grass-like" temporary things am I tempted to pursue instead of the lasting flourishing God offers?
3. In what areas of my life can I testify that "the Lord is upright; He is my rock"?

Closing Prayer Points

- Pray for each group member to experience deep-rooted flourishing in the Lord
- Pray for wisdom to perceive reality from God's eternal perspective
- Pray for strength and refreshment in areas of weakness or weariness
- Pray for fruitfulness that lasts long-term, even into old age
- Thank God for being our Rock and for His perfect justice

For Next Week

Read Psalm 73 (referenced in the sermon as thematically similar to Psalm 92)