

Flourishing

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Ryan Conlon / May 10, 2026

Psalm 92:1-15 “It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; ² to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night, ³ to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. ⁴ For You, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work; at the works of Your hands I sing for joy. ⁵ How great are Your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep! ⁶ The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this: ⁷ that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever; ⁸ but You, O LORD, are on high forever. ⁹ For behold, Your enemies, O LORD, for behold, Your enemies shall perish; all evildoers shall be scattered. ¹⁰ But You have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; You have poured over me fresh oil. ¹¹ My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies; my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants. ¹² The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. ¹³ They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. ¹⁴ They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, ¹⁵ to declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

Big Idea: True flourishing is found in the presence of God through Jesus Christ.

I. Those who flourish turn to God in thanksgiving.

Giving thanks to God does not ignore difficulty – it reorients our hearts towards God in the midst of life’s difficulties.

Philippians 2:14 “Do all things without grumbling or disputing.”

Colossians 2:6-7 “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

II. Those who flourish are not deceived by appearances.

Psalm 92:6-7 “ The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this: ⁷ that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever.”

The horn of the wild ox symbolizes strength. The oil symbolizes God’s blessing and refreshment.

Many are exhausted from chasing a version of flourishing that cannot give life.

What if you stopped chasing what only appears to flourish and planted yourself where true flourishing is found?

III. Those who flourish are planted in the presence of God.

Psalm 92:12-15 “The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. ¹³ They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. ¹⁴ They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, ¹⁵ to declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

Matthew 12:6 “I tell you, something greater than the temple is here.”

Colossians 2:9-10 “For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority.”

True flourishing is not ultimately found in a place, but in a person – Jesus Christ.

Palm Tree (dates, not coconuts) – fruitful, resilient, upright

Cedar of Lebanon – massive, majestic, prized for construction.

Those planted in the presence of God become spiritually strong, fruitful, and steadfast.