



## Flourish: Against All Odds

February 4, 2024

**Speaker:** Pastor Mark Batterson

**Scripture:** Psalm 92; Romans 8:28; Psalm 22; 1 Samuel 16:23; 2 Kings 3:15, Acts 13:2; Acts 16:25

**Sermon Overview:** Worship is the seedbed for flourishing. In His Word, God pictures flourishing through trees. He tells us that the righteous flourish like the palm tree, in the courts of our God, producing fruit in old age, always green and full of sap (Psalm 92). Yet, the only righteousness we will ever know is the righteousness of Christ because the only sin Jesus ever knew was ours (A.W. Tozer). And therefore, worship is the seedbed for flourishing.

### Sermon Series Question:

1. Where are you planted? Where is your hope planted?

### Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. “We don’t need to know more. We need to do more with what we know” -Pastor Mark. What does it mean to know the righteousness of Christ? How do you know that you know His Righteousness in your life? How are you walking by faith according to that knowledge?
2. “You don’t flourish in spite of difficult circumstances. You can flourish because of difficult circumstances”- Pastor Mark. What does it mean to say that the “obstacle is the way?” Think of an obstacle that stands between you and God’s promise for your life. How could that obstacle possibly be the way?
3. “The only ceiling on your relationship with God and your impact upon the world are your daily spiritual disciplines,” Pastor Mark. How do you incorporate the spiritual disciplines of worship, prayer, and fasting? Ask the Lord to give you a vision for how He has specifically and uniquely called you to worship, pray, and fast. Your practice may not look like your friend’s practice of these disciplines. How have you been called to respond to the Lord through these disciplines?

## **Digging Deeper:**

1. Consider looking at our fasting resources at [ncc.re/fast](http://ncc.re/fast). What has your experience been with fasting?
2. Join us for the John Wesley fast– Text “fast” to– 844-504-0861

## **Practical Application:**

- Join a group or a ministry team, or become a mission partner!
- Get in community by a small group. It's not too let, check them all out at [ncc.re/groups!!](http://ncc.re/groups!!)