

Flourish: Week 3

November 3, 2024

Message Summary

In our new series, "Flourish," we're exploring what it means to truly thrive in our relationship with God and how our faith, generosity, and actions can impact those around us. Looking at King David's example, we see a heart of gratitude, obedience, and a desire to invest in God's eternal kingdom. David understood that flourishing isn't about what we can do for God, but recognizing what God is doing through us. As we engage with this series, let's consider how we can flourish personally and as a church community, so that others can flourish too.

Icebreaker Ideas

1. Dream Job as a Kid

Ask each person to share what they wanted to be when they were a kid. It's a fun way to hear about childhood dreams and see how those dreams have changed over time.

2. Favorite Way to Spend a Rainy Day

Have everyone share their favorite activity for a rainy day, whether it's reading, watching movies, baking, or something else cozy. This can bring out common interests and spark ideas for relaxing activities.

Key Scripture(s)

2 Samuel 7:1-7

When King David was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all the surrounding enemies, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

2 Samuel 24:24

But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing."

Psalm 50:12, 14-15

“If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for all the world is mine and everything in it. Make thankfulness your sacrifice to God, and keep the vows you made to the Most High. Then call on me when you are in trouble, and I will rescue you, and you will give me glory.”

Mark 12:41-44

The Widow’s Offering: Jesus watched as the crowd put their money into the collection box. Many rich people gave large amounts, but a poor widow gave two small coins.

Talk About It

1. **What does “flourish” mean to you in the context of your faith?** Is there an area of your life where you sense God inviting you to grow or thrive?
2. **David wanted to honor God with his resources.** What does it mean to you to invest in something that lasts—God’s kingdom? How can we live with this kind of eternal perspective?
3. **David’s generosity flowed from a place of gratitude.** Are there ways you feel blessed or grateful for what God has done in your life? How can you express that gratitude in a meaningful way?
4. **In what ways can we be generous beyond finances?** How can our time, talents, or other resources help others flourish?
5. **How can we grow together as a group in our journey of generosity?** Is there a “next step” in generosity that you feel God is calling you to take?

Ways to Pray:

1. Thank God for His faithfulness and provision, as seen in David’s life and in our own.
2. Ask for guidance in areas where He is calling us to flourish and to trust Him with our resources.
3. Pray that God would use the church community to bless others, bringing hope and growth to those around us.