

Door Creek Church | Devotional Plan

Monday, March 23

Psalm 1 | Radically Rooted

They are strong, like a tree planted by a river. The tree produces fruit in season, and its leaves don't die. Everything they do will succeed.

-Psalm 1:3 (New Century Version)

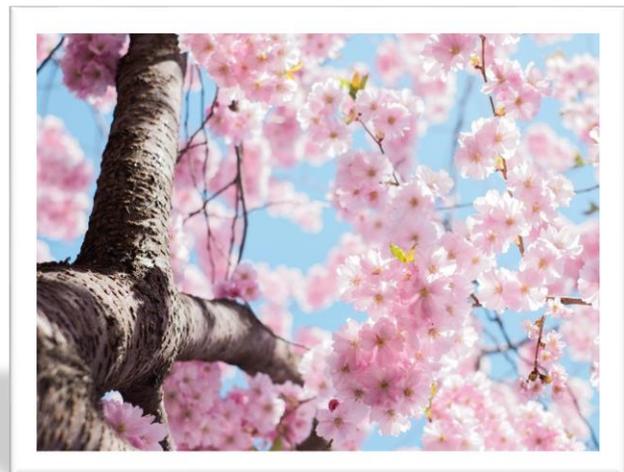
It's normal for leaves to die.

This is why the color palette outside our windows has been brown with a hint of gray for the past six months. Sure, there are trees out there, but they look lifeless, don't they?

So, how surprising would it be to go outside right now and encounter a Basswood in full summer array, exploding with vivid green foliage? Or to stumble upon a Crab Apple tree erupting with pink flowers?

This is the surprising word picture the Psalmist is trying to paint for us in in this passage.

He's telling us that **God's people should be like summer trees in winter seasons.**



We're to be displays of vitality, beauty and life when everything around us seems to be withering away. We are to be fruitful, vibrant, healthy, strong, not later when the circumstances get better, but right now, in this very season.

We can be...

- ...calm in seasons of anxiety.
- ...wise in seasons of panic.
- ...loving in seasons of haste.
- ...generous in seasons of scarcity.
- ...joyful in seasons of discouragement.

How can we be like summer trees in winter seasons?

The Psalmist explains that *summer trees are radically rooted*.

See, a typical tree's root system is constantly straining deeper into the soil, stretching for pockets of life-sustaining water. The underground work of a tree's roots is not a casual activity...it's a life-and-death struggle. If there's no water nearby, the tree will not live.

Do you see the word picture coming together? If people are trees, God's Word is an inexhaustible river of life-giving water.

We're to be radically rooted in His word. We don't need to forage mindlessly through the barren and impoverished philosophies of this world. We don't need to suffer through winter, waiting for circumstances to get better. We've been planted right on top of a never-ending fountain, and by drinking deeply in His Word, we can be enlivened, refreshed and strengthened.

Where are your roots right now?

Are you searching aimlessly for drops of inspiration in the news?

Are you scrolling endlessly for bits of hope on social media?

Put down your phone, turn off Netflix and open your Bible instead.

Drink in His words. Ponder them. Relish them.

Choose to be radically rooted in God today so you can thrive in this season.