



Flourish!

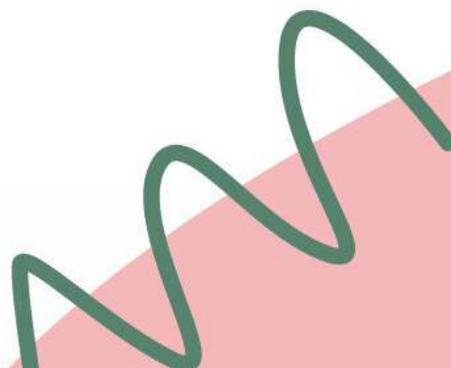


Embrace the abundance God has for you!

by Woody Cumbie

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01

You were made to Flourish!



God has a very special destiny for each of His children. That includes you!

Your God-given destiny is a life of abundance and flourishing. Relationally, emotionally and especially spiritually, your Father in heaven desires the best for you.

You guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny. - Psalm 73:24 (NLT)

Spiritual abundance is your birthright!

Every believer in the Lord Jesus is born into a relationship with God. In Him is the fulness of joy! Jesus said that He came to earth so that you could have life and have it in abundance.

The promise of the Christian life cannot be overstated. When Jesus said that He came so that you could have life He meant that there is a dimension of living that you have not yet experienced - and cannot experience without a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Eternal life is yours through faith in Jesus. Yet there is more! You have probably had this thought at some point in your Christian life, "there must be more." That quiet question is pointing you toward the life Jesus has for you right now: abundant life!

I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance. - John 10:10 (CSB)





Abundant living in Christ is a life of flourishing faith and freedom, anchored in the unchanging truth of God's word.

It's a quality of life. You will feel it in your spirit. It will show on your face. It will show up in your relationships.

Others will notice when you are living in prosperity of spirit and have a God-giving purpose in your life. Others will find hope and wholeness through the witness of your life. You can enjoy the abundant faith, freedom and truth God offers. You can flourish!

02

The Prophetic Palm Tree



Flourish!

When choosing a name for our ministry, I chose **Trinity Palms**. Why?

Trinity refers to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Triune God of the Christian faith.

Why palms? The palm tree is a prophetic symbol in your bible.

The bible is full of symbols. Moses' staff is a symbol of God's power. The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The morning star points to Jesus.

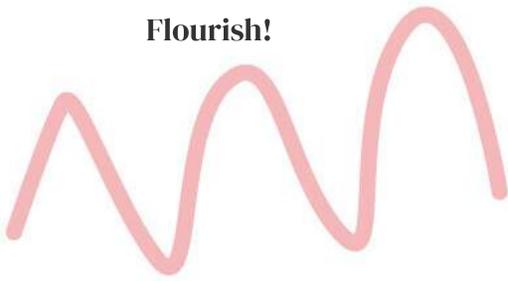
The palm tree refers to resilience, strength, provision, and flourishing.

The Palm Tree in Scripture

The prophetic symbol of the palm tree is seen in strategic locations in the narrative of your bible.



Flourish!



The palm tree is depicted throughout Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem: on the inner walls, the doorposts and the doors. You can read the full description in 1 Kings, chapter 6.

Ezekiel's prophecy of a glorious temple to be built when Jesus returns also features palm tree depictions throughout.

On every wall all around, on the inside and outside, was a pattern carved with cherubim and palm trees. There was a palm tree between each pair of cherubim ... Cherubim and palm trees were carved from the ground to the top of the entrance and on the wall of the great hall. - Ezekiel 41:17-18, 20.

Most of Israel is dry and desert-like. Yet the palm tree thrives. As you might guess, the palm tree was often an indicator of an oasis or water nearby. So it pointed to life giving water in an arid land. Plus its fruit is sweet and nourishing. So the palm tree became a symbol of provision.



The righteous flourish like
the palm tree and grow
like a cedar in Lebanon.
-Psalm 92:12

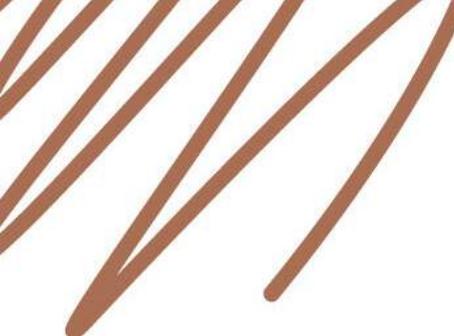
Flourish!

The Palm Branch is a biblical symbol of praise and victory!

Palm branches were used in rejoicing before God during the Festival of Booths prescribed by God in the book of Leviticus.

On the first day you are to take the product of majestic trees—palm fronds, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook—and rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. - Leviticus 23:40 (CSB)





Palm branches were used in praise of Jesus during his triumphant entry to Jerusalem - what we know as Palm Sunday.

When the large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet him. They kept shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord —the King of Israel!" - John 12:12-13 (CSB)

Palm branches even show up in the Book of Revelation. The great crowd of people who are saved from every tribe, tongue and people are seen to be waving palm branches in praise to Jesus their Savior.

After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb! - Revelation 7:9-10 (CSB)

The waving of palm branches was an expression of joyful praise!

The Resilient and Enduring Palm Tree

The palm tree is a symbol of resilience and endurance.

I grew up in Florida. Of course I loved the sand, surf and sunshine. The colorful tropical plants were a reminder of God's beauty and variety. And there were palm trees: tall stately royal palms, curvy coconut palms, fan palms, thatch palms and many more varieties.

Florida is also known for hurricanes. I've lived through several. As you know hurricanes can be very destructive. The high winds and torrential rains are a one two punch that take their toll.

A constant amazement to me was how, after a hurricane, the palm trees were still standing when so many other trees were downed. Some trees were completely uprooted but the palms were still standing. Entire buildings were sometimes blown away but the palm was still there.

Palm trees are resilient. No matter what nature throws, the palm tree endures.

Sweet Nutrition by God's Design

The palm tree is the source of sweet nutrition.



The Date Palm and the Coconut Palm each provide sweet nutrition.

Recent studies have shown the date to be rich in nutrients, a good source of fiber and quick energy. You know that coconut water is trending and for good reason. Coconut water not only rehydrates but it replenishes and balances electrolytes. It was nature's sports drink long before sports drinks! And who doesn't love the sweetness of coconut meat. It's more than a confection - it is rich in minerals and even has anti-inflammatory properties.

Just think, our Sovereign God and creator, strategically planted the palm tree in the desert-like middle east as a source of health and enjoyment for His people.

Let's review. In the bible, the palm tree represents:

- Resilience
- Strength
- Provision
- Praise
- Victory
- Endurance
- Sweet nutrition

In short, the palm symbolizes flourishing.



03

Flourishing is God's Design



Flourish!

God has made you to flourish just like the palm tree!

As a follower of Jesus, God has purposed your life to flourish. I know because the bible tells me so!

The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. - Psalm 92:12-13 (ESV)

God's Hi-Lighter

Did you know that God has a hi-lighter? It's true. God has a way to call special attention to certain words or phrases in the bible. It's His way of saying, wait, take notice!

God's hi-lighter is repetition.

When God repeats Himself in the Bible, He does so on purpose. Repetition is God's way of hi-lighting a word or truth. When you notice a word or phrase being repeated, you should know that it's God calling your attention to something extra special that He is saying.

Read Psalm 92:12-13 again. Do you notice a word that's repeated?

That's right. The word God hi-lights is flourish. What does flourish mean?

The Hebrew word translated flourish means to bud, sprout or bloom. It speaks of emerging life and beauty.

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines the English word flourish as meaning to "grow luxuriantly, thrive, achieve success, and prosper" and "to reach a height of development or influence."

God hi-lighted the word flourish because it describes His intended life for you and for everyone who follows Jesus Christ. God intends for you to live a vibrant, growing, beautiful and influential life. You are made to flourish!

The righteous flourish like the palm tree!

The righteous flourish in the courts of our God!

The righteous? That's you! As a follower of Jesus, you are made right with God (righteous) because you are clothed in the righteousness of Jesus.

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. - Romans 3:22 (NLT)



Wow! I hope that you are encouraged! God made you not just to survive but to thrive! You are resilient in Christ. And He's made you to have influence on others for God's glory.

Your Personal Statement of Faith

Consider this vibrant picture that God gives of His intended life for you!

Let me put in the first person for you because this extravagant truth has your name on it as a follower of Jesus. Meditate on this confession.

"I am right with God through faith in Jesus. In Him, my new life in Christ is emerging. My new life in Christ is becoming more and more visible each day that I walk with Jesus. God's favor is on me! I am growing. I am thriving in spirit and achieving God-given success and influence for His glory. Like the palm tree, I am resilient, strong and sweet no matter the circumstance. I am flourishing in Christ!"

04

What's Holding You Back?



Flourish!

You may be asking, “**why am I not experiencing the abundant life?**” Or “why isn’t my life flourishing?”

Great question! Just asking that question puts you on the doorstep of breakthrough! It means you want all that God has to offer. It places you among the wise and displays the very posture of spirit that your Father loves.

The Lord looks down from heaven on the human race to see if there is one who is wise, one who seeks God. - Psalm 14:2 (CSB)

Now there is bad news and good news.

Let’s agree that anything that holds you back from all that God has to offer you is bad. What holds back most people is either bad behavior or bad beliefs - or both. Those two things are what hold back the fullness of God’s blessing from your life.





Bad Behaviors Resolved

You might have read this revealing verse in your Old Testament:

Listen! The Lord's arm is not too weak to save you, nor is his ear too deaf to hear you call. It's your sins that have cut you off from God. - Isaiah 59:1-2 (NLT)

The biblical truth is that sin separates. Sin separates friends, spouses and it separates believers from God.

You have a heart for God. You would not have read this far if you did not! You want all that God has to offer. That's why you are reading this book.



It's possible for a person with a heart for God to be lured away from the right path by their own sinful desires. King David of Israel was. He was said to have a heart for God yet he let himself be carried away by lust and then doubled-down by involving himself in a deadly cover-up of his sin.

If you know of areas in your life that aren't pleasing to God, now is the time to turn from sin and turn toward God. **Remove what keeps you from God's best for your life.**

Here is an encouraging verse also from the book of Isaiah:

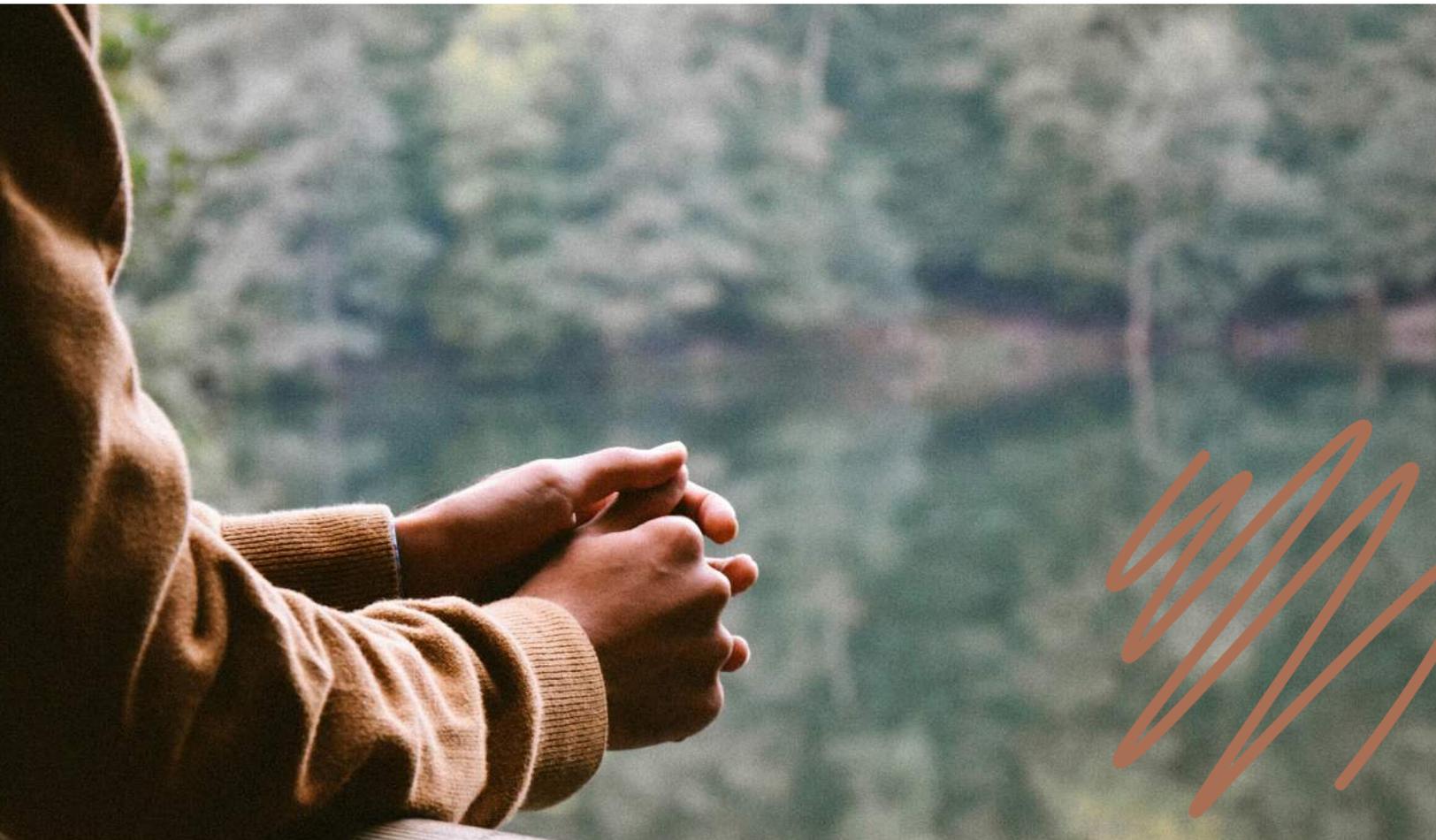
Flourish!

“Come, let’s settle this,” says the Lord.

“Though your sins are scarlet,
they will be as white as snow;
though they are crimson red,
they will be like wool.” - Isaiah 1:18 (CSB)

You can settle accounts with the Lord by turning to Him in faith, confessing your sin, and then living in God’s truth and grace.

You might be saying, I have confessed many times but I keep returning to the same sinful behaviors. You may feel trapped in an endless cycle!



If you feel that you are trapped in a sinful pattern that you cannot break, there is help available! Our prayer team at Trinity Palms Ministries is trained in helping people break away from habitual sins and begin the journey to wholeness. Don't wait! Every day you wait is one more day missing out on the abundance God has for you.

**Schedule your discovery call today at TrinityPalms.org
Schedule a free and confidential call and discover your path to forgiveness and freedom.**

Limiting Beliefs Identified

The gospel of Matthew records a sad sentence. Jesus had been doing many miracles but something happened when He went home. When he went to Nazareth He ran into a wall of unbelief. Their unbelief limited the power of God!

And he did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief. - Matthew 13:58

Flourish!

Jesus was in his home town but their lack of faith held back God's miracles. Their limiting beliefs literally quenched the flow of God's blessings. Imagine being that close to the miracle worker and missing out because of unbelief!

Beliefs govern your life. Beliefs propel you forward or hold you back. Those that hold you back we call limiting beliefs. They limit your potential.

As a pastor for several decades, I've noticed three limiting beliefs that hold back the full abundance that Jesus has for His people. They are so common that everyone should examine their own thinking.

See if you have any of these common limiting beliefs.

1. "I am not qualified."

Our Lord designed the Christian life to be an active adventure! God has a path planned for you that not only brings you joy but blesses those whom you encounter.

When you help and bless others in Jesus' name, God calls that a good work. When you step out in faith, believing God's word, that too is a good work. And when you engage in bold believing prayer for others, you are doing a good work.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do. - Ephesians 2:10 (CSB)

Here's a secret that will give you hope: you are qualified in Jesus Christ!

You don't need a bible college degree or a ministerial ordination to have a vibrant, joy filled and abundant Christian life. You don't need permission to bless others in Jesus name. The moment you become a Christ follower, you are qualified!

So once and for all, put aside that limiting belief. In Jesus, you are called and qualified to live and share the abundant Christian life!

2. "I am not worthy."

This is the most common limiting belief: I am not worthy.

I am not worthy of God's love. I am not worthy to be used by God. I am not worthy of His blessing. I am not worthy to minister to others.



In Luke chapter 7, there is the story of a Roman army officer who had a servant who was sick and about to die. The Roman officer cared for his servant and wanted him to be well but had run out of all of his options. He asked some Jewish Rabbis to approach Jesus on his behalf.

Read what happened after Jesus agreed to go and help the servant:

Jesus went with them, and when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to tell him, "Lord, don't trouble yourself, since I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. That is why I didn't even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed." - Luke 7:6-7 (CSB)

Do you see it? The centurion had both faith and doubt. He doubted his own worthiness but believed in Jesus. The result was a miraculous healing for his servant.

The Centurion's confidence in Jesus overruled his self-doubt!

When your self-doubts are bigger than Jesus then doubt has become an idol for you. That may sound strange but it's true. An idol is anything that replaces your faith in Jesus. It's time to cast down this limiting idol and believe God's amazing truth that you are made worthy in Jesus!

Why do so many believers conclude that they are not worthy?



I am not worthy is often an expression of a guilty conscience.

The honest truth is that you and me and everyone has sinned. We all have a history of going our own way instead of God's way. All have sinned.

Here's a liberating truth: you have most certainly sinned but you have been or can be completely forgiven!

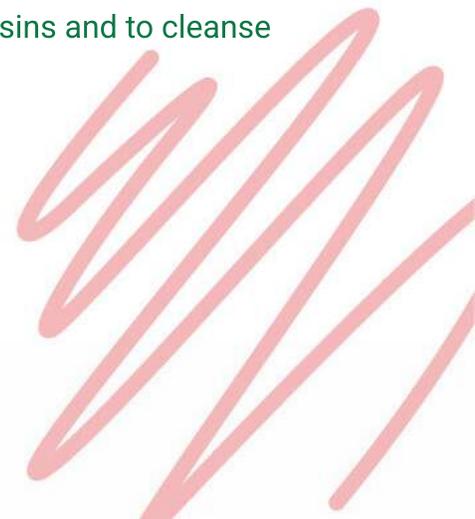
When Jesus died, He took all of your guilt on the cross! All of it!

Jesus erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross. - Colossians 2:14 (CSB)

Jesus took the entire list of your sins - past, present and future - and erased the list! He nailed it to the cross! That's right. Read this sentence slowly: Jesus saw you as having so much worth, that He died to remove the relational barrier between you and Him.

You activate God's forgiveness - and healing of your conscience - when you confess your sin to Jesus. Once you confess your sin, don't look back. Move forward in the freedom of forgiveness!

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. - 1 John 1:9 (CSB)



Take hold of this truth: Jesus made me worthy!

3. I am not free

Jesus made a remarkable but often overlooked statement on the very first day of His public ministry. He was asked to read aloud a portion of the book Isaiah. What happened next wasn't just a scripture reading - it was a revelation of Himself and His ministry.

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

- Luke 4:18-19 (CSB)

Now let me tell you something that may be surprising to you. Or it may be descriptive of you.

Many people quietly endure spiritual oppression.

Many feel like they are captive to accusing thoughts or hurtful memories. These continuous negative thoughts and feelings keep people trapped in a cycle of sadness, fear, anxiety and detrimental behaviors.

If this describes you in any way, you are not alone!



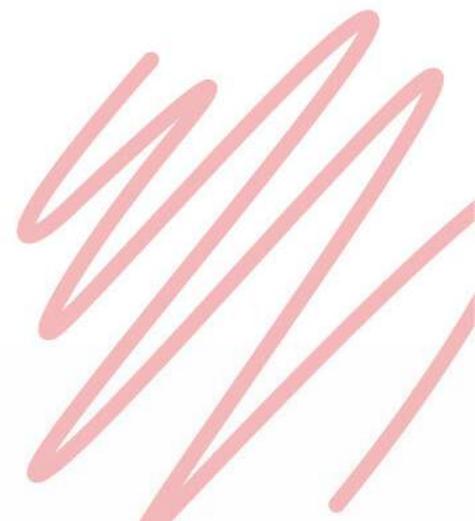
If this describes you in any way there is good news: you can be free!

Jesus came to set free the oppressed. In His presence is healing, wholeness and freedom. The hurtful memories of your past do not have to limit you today. You can be free. Accusing thoughts do not need to be the daily diet of your thoughts. You can be free.

Truth can defeat every lie. Jesus' healing love can heal and replace the pain of past traumas. Those can be laid aside like soiled garments and replaced the robe of Jesus' love and grace.

I know because I have experienced it and I have seen it happen for others!

Keep reading for how you can begin your healing journey today!



05

Start your Freedom Journey!



Flourish!

Every journey begins with a first step, an intentional action.

You do not need to be held back any longer!
God's desire and purpose for you is a joyful life of relational, emotional and spiritual abundance. You are made to flourish!

Don't wait. If you are experiencing limiting beliefs, hurtful memories, the anxiety of spiritual oppression, you can find relief in Jesus!

The Trinity Palms Prayer Team can help you on your journey to freedom!

A prayer minister is waiting to help here:
www.TrinityPalms.org

Schedule your discovery call today! Let's talk about your path to healing and abundance in Christ. You were made to flourish! Do not settle for anything less!



Schedule your discovery call here:



www.trinitypalms.org/flourish-in-freedom

To know more about Trinity Palms Ministries and schedule your discovery call, visit our website: www.TrinityPalms.org



Flourish!

In "Flourish!", discover the abundant life that God has designed for you, filled with relational, emotional, and spiritual richness. This transformative journey invites you to break free from limiting beliefs and habitual sins, empowering you to embrace your true identity in Christ. Experience the joy of flourishing faith and freedom, as you step into the glorious destiny that awaits you.

About the Author

Woody Cumbie is the founder and Executive Director of Trinity Palms Ministries. An ordained pastor and certified Christian Life Coach, Woody splits time between Indiana and Florida. He is an FSU fan, a reader of espionage fiction, and loves helping people discover the Holy Land.

