



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Discovery 101** – Our next Discovery 101 class is Sunday, 2/26 at 3 pm. Join us! We discuss the beliefs, strategy, structure and vision that are the foundation of Southwinds, and underlies membership here. Sign-up on the App, website or at the Information Table. Contact Rene Snyder at rsnyder@southwinds.org with questions.
- **Let's Celebrate Pastor Mike and Dana's 20th Anniversary at Southwinds!** – Join us for a luncheon on Sunday, 2/19 at 12:30 to honor their Pastoral Anniversary here at Southwinds!
- **Special Guest Speaker - Johnny Baker** – We are excited that Johnny Baker from Saddleback Church, will be our guest speaker here at Southwinds on Sunday, 2/12.

MY STORY

What's one of your favorite memories involving a tree?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

Have A Volunteer Read: Genesis 1:11-12; Psalm 145:9

Point #1: God LOVES TREES.

"Trees are the most frequently mentioned living thing in the Bible, after God and people. Open the first page of the Bible and you find trees (Gen 1:11-12), as we just read. Trees are central to the teaching of Psalm 1, which serves as an introduction to the entire book of Psalms. We find trees all through the gospels and Jesus' ministry. Jesus dies on a tree. And the Bible ends with a

scene focused on a tree, the Tree of Life. There are over a thousand references to trees in the Bible.” – **Michael Nolen**

Which attribute of trees discussed in the sermon spoke to you most?

How do these attributes of a tree point to God and people?

Have Another Volunteer Read: Jeremiah 17: 7-8

Point #2: God uses trees to TEACH US.

“Here’s the question... Will we allow the Bible to tell us what really matters? Will we allow God’s Word to tell us the real story of the world, a story that is truer and better than all our stories? Are you willing to let God’s Word reshape your thinking, maybe in a way you have never considered before? Will you believe that God can do something in your life you’ve maybe never know, if you will?” – **Michael Nolen**

What areas do you believe you may need God to reshape your thinking?

Are you willing to ask God to reveal to you what areas you need Him to “grow” (pun intended) your thinking, even if you don’t believe you need it?

“What’s interesting in Psalm 1 is that it seems to be describing the Tree of Life in Genesis 2. It’s saying that the righteous person who’s connected to God, who’s planted and rooted becomes like a tree of life, giving life to others through fruitfulness. You become like a tree of life. That’s what Jeremiah 17:7-8 says. If you trust in the Lord, you’ll be like a tree planted by water, with roots going into the water. You won’t fear when drought comes. You’ll never fail to bear fruit. Always green. Again, we’re supposed to think of the tree of life here.” – **Michael Nolen**

Have you ever considered yourself to be a tree planted by water, with roots going into the water?

Where are we bearing fruit in our life?

APPLICATION

It is not the trees. It’s a beautiful metaphor bringing richness to God’s word just like light and water.

How would we like to bear more fruit?

PRAISES

PRAYER REQUESTS

References

Point 1

- Genesis 1:11-12, 8:11, 18:1, 21:33, 49:22
- Psalm 145:9, 1:3
- Exodus 2:2
- Jeremiah 17:7-8
- Proverbs 3:18
- John 15:1, 20:15
- Isaiah 53:2
- Matthew 13:31-32
- Mark 11:12-14, 20-21
- Revelation 22:1-2, 16

Point 2

- Revelation 22:2-3, 5
- Genesis 2:9
- Exodus 25:31-40, 28:34
- Psalm 92:12-15