



Thrive Part 1 | "The Thorns"

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

KEY SCRIPTURE | Mark 4:1–9, 18–19

DISCUSSION GUIDE

God's intent and design is for us to thrive as human beings. God wants us to live an abundant life—a rich and satisfying life through Jesus. Yet, we often don't live in the fullness God planned for us. In our passage this week, we look at the "Parable of the Sower." The Sower in this parable is sowing seed on different types of soil. Taking a closer look at the thorny soil, Jesus reveals what these thorns are in our lives. Just like the thorns grow up and choke the plants, so the pursuit of *this* world chokes out the blessing of *His* world. Our bodies are below, our minds on things above.

QUESTIONS

Ice Breaker Question: What was your favorite part of the holidays this year?

1. Prior to this message, how would you have understood blessed or thrive?
2. Prior to this message, how would you have pictured someone who is blessed?
3. Did this message change your view of blessed or thriving? How so?
4. In this message, we talked about three thorns from the "Parable of the Sower." Which did you identify with the most?
 - The cares of this world
 - The deceitfulness of wealth
 - The lure of other thingsWhich did you identify with the most?
6. Would you be willing to share anything specific from question 4?
7. Was there anything else that stood out to you from this message?
8. Based on this discussion, what is your action step? And who do you need to tell for accountability?

