

Psalm 92:12

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,

They will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;

Planted in the house of the Lord,

They will flourish in the courts of our
God.



Belize has thousands of palm trees. There are many different varieties. They all share 4 characteristics. Missionaries also share these four characteristics.

- 1) Deep Root System: Typically the need to go deep for water and this gives them anchorage during hurricanes.
- 2) Tough Bark: Center part of the tree is where the life is; which is the opposite of deciduous trees. They can take some hard knocks and still flourish.
- 3) Flexibility: Bends under high wind conditions and doesn't crack or break when stressed.
- 4) Sweet fruit: The fruit gets sweeter with maturity. Spiritual maturity takes time and the prize is sweet.

Missionaries have Four Values:

- 1) Relational: Developing friendships that are long lasting and have the of sharing hope for the future
- 2) Strategy: Having a plan and being willing to take the hard knocks to see it through and see God's Kingdom grow.
- 3) Missiology: Not every situation brings about the expected results. Being cautious not to develop dependencies, but to build capacity so that the we and the people we are serving will be able to be flexible when we are stressed.
- 4) Transformation: Changing lives and being changed is a sweet fruit

During the Week Remember: it will be hard to be out of view of a palm tree! So when you need refreshment of the Spirit; look at a Palm Tree.

- 1) If it is still, know that it is being fed from a deep source and so are you.
- 2) It is has scars or bark falling off, remember the center part of the tree is where the life is. Deep within you is where your Spirit and your Heart are. God will strengthen you.
- 3) If it is swaying, it's displaying its flexibility. God grants us this life skill so that we may successfully adapt in the places He has chosen us to serve.
- 4) If you notice the coconuts, remember there is sweet fruit. Look into the faces of the people and see the sweetness of God's promise of Hope.

By looking at the palm tree, God can speak to our needs. We just need to remember to seek His lessons for us daily.