

Handout November 29, 2024

## Give Thanks! Psalm 100

Welcome Back and here we go!

The holidays are upon us and we have a lot to be thankful for. It is not that there haven't been hardships this year. There have been --- for some, more than others. But there is one constant.

1) We can all \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_.

***Philippians 4:6-7 'Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.'***

The Word encourages us to bring our anxieties and stress and worries to our God --- with Thanksgiving. Isn't that interesting? The real message here is, *yes, there will be troubles....* but don't worry about them --- rather believe God hears you and will act and bring you peace. So, we are thankful for two reasons:

2a) We have a \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_!

2b) We have a \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_!

So, how do we appropriate this peace?

***Isaiah 40:31 'But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.'***

3) To \_\_\_\_\_ means to \_\_\_\_\_!

We are thankful that we know God hears and acts. Life may not be perfect; in fact, life may seem at times as though the troubles may never end. But we know we have a God who is faithful.

***Isaiah 26:3 'You will keep him/her in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he/she trusts in You.'***

4) Keeping our \_\_\_\_\_ stayed on the Lord is our \_\_\_\_\_.

It is called Occupation with Christ! If you are thinking about God, about who He is --- what He has promised --- who He says we are --- we can move our focus away from our problems and we can be thankful!

***Psalms 136:1-16 'Oh, give thanks to the Lord , for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever: To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who made great lights, For His mercy endures forever— The sun to rule by day, For His mercy endures forever; The moon and stars to rule by night, For His mercy endures forever. To Him***

**who struck Egypt in their firstborn, For His mercy endures forever; And brought out Israel from among them, For His mercy endures forever; With a strong hand, and with an outstretched arm, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who divided the Red Sea in two, For His mercy endures forever; And made Israel pass through the midst of it, For His mercy endures forever; But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who led His people through the wilderness, For His mercy endures forever;'**

Let me ask you something: Do you think all of these events in the history of Israel were painless, without fear, easy peasy, skate to the finish, type things?

**Lamentations 3:20-26 'My soul still remembers And sinks within me. This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope. Through the Lord 's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!" The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the Lord .'**

5) You can \_\_\_\_\_ God to show up.

I am encouraging you to be thankful today. Do you know why we believe --- why we hope?

**Ecclesiastes 3:9-13 'What profit has the worker from that in which he labors? I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end. I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God.'**

God placed eternity in our hearts. We hope --- we are *thankful* --- and *grateful* --- because beyond a measure of doubt --- we know it is true ---- Jesus and Heaven.

Tonight after service, we follow Solomon's advice, we eat and enjoy fellowship with one another.

6) Be \_\_\_\_\_ for what you \_\_\_\_\_.

Once again, I want to challenge each of you to be a better person.

- What struggle do you have today? ● Give thanks for growth.
- What seems impossible? ● Give thanks for miracles.
- Where do you lack peace? ● Give thanks for supernatural intervention.

**Psalms 100 'Make a joyful shout to the Lord , all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord , He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.'**

If you are thankful, if you are grateful, then let's praise our God.

Let's pray.