

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything this week that really spoke to you? Was there anything that was brand new to you?

Introduction

Pastor Jeff shared a story about always making sure his daughter has a gift when she goes to a birthday party. Have you ever gone to a birthday party or a celebration without bringing a gift with you? What about when you are invited over to someone's house for dinner?

Digging IN**Read Psalm 100:1-5**

1. At the beginning of Jeff's sermon, he talked about living a worshipful and thankful life. It is a command to give, where we offer these things back to God. The Psalmist is teaching us that our worship and thanksgiving is about being an active contributor, not merely a consumer.
 - a. Why is it when we come to church for worship, we come with the expectation to get, rather than give? (not specifically talking about giving money).
 - b. Have you ever not participated in worship because of a particular song? How about a sermon topic?
 - c. What does this Psalm teach us about our response when it comes to worship or giving thanks?
2. **Read verses 1-3.** Jeff talked about worshipping God with gladness and singing because of who he is; Creator and Shepherd. The phrase in verse 2, "serve the Lord with gladness" means to worship God with laughter or glee.
 - a. When was the last time you jumped to your feet with excitement, laughter or glee?
 - b. Was it a natural response to something or did you need to manufacture it?
 - c. How should this look when we give our worship to God? At church? In our everyday lives?
3. This passage lists two reasons for why we ought to worship God, because he is Creator and Shepherd. This means God created us, and he leads us if we know Him (v.3). Those two things are characteristics of God, also known as attributes of God.
 - a. What are some attributes that you worship God for? As a group go around and list those attributes, briefly talk about what they mean.

4. **Read verses 4-5.** We are commanded to give thanks because of God's lovingkindness and his faithfulness to us. We worship God for who He is and give thanks for what He's done.
- a. Within the last year, how has God been good to you? Write it down, share it with your group.
 - i. His Love?
 - ii. His Faithfulness?
 - b. Sometimes we often think of God's goodness only when it relates to experiencing good circumstances. However, all of us have experienced difficult and trying circumstances at some point this year. How do you give thanks for God's love and faithfulness in difficult circumstances? Is it possible?
 - c. The Psalmist uses the phrase "His faithfulness to all generations" in verse 5. Have you ever thought about how hearing stories of God's faithfulness from your grandparents, parents or older generation has affected your worship towards God?
 - d. How is your worship and thankfulness towards God affected when it comes to being used towards the next generation? With your own kids, grandkids or younger generation?

Taking it Home

This week – take time each day to specifically write down two things:

- a. How you are reminded of Him being your Creator and Shepherd
- b. How God showed you his love and faithfulness that day.

Both of these things should result in – Worship and Thankfulness

Praise / Prayer Requests

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