



**Expressing
Thanks to God!
Psalms 100**

Observations

- The Thanksgiving Holiday in this country was originally designed as a day set aside by congress to express our nation's thanks to God
- In 1789, George Washington read a proclamation backed by both houses of congress to recommend to the people of the United States a day of thanksgiving to God and prayer
- But in our “materialistic society,” are we really thankful people?
- Seemingly, the more we get → the less we appreciate → the less mindful of God we are → the more we want → produces in us → an insatiable desire for more stuff!

- **The 100th Psalm was written for the people of God**
- **God basically says through David to them, “*Look, when your fathers arrived in the land that I had promised and settled in their warm homes, and had plenty to eat, I told them, DON’T FORGET ABOUT ME!*” “*Don’t forget how you got there!*”**
- **“*I led your fathers out of the bondage of Egypt and the wilderness and brought them to this prosperous land that flows with milk and honey.*”**
- **We are approximately 150 years removed from the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves in 1863, enjoying successes and positions of leadership that our forefathers never imagined**
- **Notice that it didn’t take long for God to realize that Israel needed a reminder, and I am afraid that we do too!**
- **Maybe God had us in mind when he used David to pen the 100th Psalm (*When the saints of WPCOC reach success*)**

There are 6 Commands in Psalms 100 for God's Child Who Gives Thanks (Who Remembers)

#1 Make a Joyful Noise (Shout for Joy)

- **This shout comes from the depths of your heart**
- **Maybe God has solved a problem for you (say something)**
- **Maybe he has given you, “Providential Divine Direction”**
- **Maybe he has provided a blessing “particularly for you!”**
(Ex. People you worked around got COVID 19, but you didn't)
- **Maybe he delivered your child medically, financially, academically, or in their job search (1 out of 29 applications)**
- **Therefore, realizing that He “stepped in,” and did something for you that you couldn't do for yourself, from the depths of your heart you praise God (YOU SHOUT!)**

***The Hardest
Arithmetic for Us
to Master is That
Which Enables Us to
Count Our Blessings!***

In Luke 17:11-17 Jesus Makes Note Of Curing 10 Men of an Incurable Disease and Only One Came Back to Thank Him

- **The one that came back was not even one of God's Chosen Ones**

Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed?" Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Verse 18

- **Nine who were healed already had a relationship with GOD but NO GRATITUDE**
- **Am I the kind of Christian that regularly asks God for blessings but rarely thanks Him for blessings already received?**

(Ex. Bless this and that, go by here and there, be with them and those, support us and them)

But Giving Very Little Thanks for What God Has Already Done!

#2 Serve the Lord With Gladness

- He doesn't say serve the preacher, the church, the organization—but serve the Lord
 - Matthew 25:40, Jesus said, *“In as much as you have done it to the least of my brethren you have done it to me.”*
(Feed the hungry, clothe the less fortunate, educate children)
 - When you testify of God's goodness to you (broadcast)
 - Children, when you obey your parents, you serve the Lord
Ephesians 6:1-3 (one of first scriptures memorized)
 - Parents, when serving your children, you serve the Lord
 - Husbands, when you serve your wives, you serve the Lord
 - Wives, when you serve your husbands, you serve the Lord
- One of the reasons to live this way is, *“so that the word of God be not blasphemed (discredited)”* Titus 2:5, 1 Timothy 3:5

#3 Come Singing With Joy In His Presence

- The joy that God has given your life ought to be expressed with your exuberant singing
- Notice that our worship services are filled with songs from the beginning to the end
- When you sing, sing from the heart, Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16 (singing is not exclusive to only singers)
- Sing like the words mean something to you
- When you sing in worship, God is the audience!
“Living below in this old sinful world...”
“I once was lost in sin, but Jesus took me in...”

#4 Know Ye That the Lord is God

- “It is He who made us, and not we ourselves”
- “We are His people and the sheep of His pasture”
- God determined how we were to look (Did you know that?)
- In fact, God made us, and God is still making us!
- Thanks to a God who hasn’t given up on us when others have
- He is not satisfied with the unfinished product
 - He is not satisfied with our lack of self control
 - He is not satisfied with our inability to forgive
 - He is not satisfied at the place in our lives, where you and I consistently give into temptation, Hebrews 12:1-2
 - He is not satisfied when we excuse ourselves when we know we have mistreated people and don’t apologize. Matthew 6:12-14 says that we will pay for that. *“If you forgive men”*

#5 We are His People and the Sheep of His Pasture

- One of our problems is that **WE WANT TO BE THE SHEPHERD AND NOT SHEEP!**
- We believe, *“It’s not fun to be a sheep.”*
- The problem is that we are more like sheep than shepherds
 - Easily influenced, little means of self defense
 - Like sheep we tend to wander off
 - We don’t know where, “the still waters are”
 - We don’t know where, “the greener pastures are”

So, We Strike Off Like the Prodigal Son to a Far Country!

So God Says, “You be the Sheep, and I’ll be the Shepherd!”

#6 Enter Into His Gates With Thanksgiving and Into His Courts With Praise

- In the Old Testament when people entered the temple and the courtyards they knew that they had come into the presence of God
- Now, the temple doesn't exist anymore; but the room where we meet is called "the sanctuary." Matthew 18:20
- But God is not limited to a "sanctuary" or room, so we honor and reverence God everywhere we go
- It's sad to say but many worship services this morning have gone the way of *"Theatrics"*
- The Leaders are running a *"Showboat,"* rather than a *"Lifeboat!"*
- Many are staging a performance rather than living an experience that is displayed to God in sincere and passionate worship, John 4:24

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38