



How Do You Meet Jesus with Others?

WORSHIP

Psalm 95

Come let us sing for joy



Psalm 100

Shout with joy to the Lord

Let us come before him with
thanksgiving, extol him with
music & song



Come before him with joyful songs

For the Lord is the great God



Know that the Lord is God

Let us kneel before the Lord
our Maker



It is he who made us

We are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care



We are his people,
the sheep of his pasture



Worship & Thanksgiving

What Is Thankfulness??? (100:4-5)

Thankfulness is relational...

...it is ultimately rooted in who God is, not what He gives

Thankfulness is not first of all a delight in the benefits God gives...
...first of all it is a delight in the beauty & excellence of the character of God which begins an *inner transformation* that sees all of life differently.

Eg. C.S. Lewis – “*Meditations on a Tool Shed*”

Inner transformation ...learning to look up from the life we see “along the beam” until we see the God life (His goodness, love, faithfulness)



Worship & Thanksgiving

What Is Thankfulness??? (100:4-5)

We are thankful in “all things” because all things are meant to cause the eyes of your heart to run up the beam of what you see, to “see” the excellency of the Shepherd King.

God’s Goodness...

...All that God does is worthy of approval

Luke 18:19 No one is good but God alone.

God is the final standard of what is good...

...His goodness is not measured by your sense of approval, but rather that the perfect God without any defect in His being, approves it as good



Worship & Thanksgiving

What Is Thankfulness??? (100:4-5)

We are thankful in “all things” because all things are meant to cause the eyes of your heart to run up the beam of what you see, to “see” the excellency of the Shepherd King.

God’s Goodness...

...All that God does is worthy of approval

God’s Unfailing Love...

...God’s self-giving for the benefit of others

1 John 4:10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us & sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

“Unfailing” – it continues to give to us daily as an undeserved gift



Worship & Thanksgiving

What Is Thankfulness??? (100:4-5)

We are thankful in “all things” because all things are meant to cause the eyes of your heart to run up the beam of what you see, to “see” the excellency of the Shepherd King.

God’s Goodness...

...All that God does is worthy of approval

God’s Unfailing Love...

...God’s self-giving for the benefit of others

God’s Faithfulness through all generations...

...God’s utter dependability, like the strong arms of a parent supporting a completely dependent child



Worship & Thanksgiving

What Is Thankfulness??? (100:4-5)

We are thankful in “all things” because all things are meant to cause the eyes of your heart to run up the beam of what you see, to “see” the excellency of God’s goodness, love & faithfulness

If you do not understand this, then your approach to thankfulness can easily become idolatry!!

...the measure of thankfulness is the gifts not the “Giver”

But when thankfulness doesn’t begin with the gifts, but with the beauty and excellency of God’s character...

....His goodness, love & faithfulness

...then thanksgiving becomes a natural part of your relationship



Worship & Thanksgiving

What Is Thankfulness???? (100:4-5)

Thankfulness & Praise go hand in glove...

“***Give thanks*** to Him & ***praise*** His Name, for the Lord is good & His love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.”

- Praise is delight in the beauty of God as an end in itself
- Thankfulness looks at the details of life and follows them up the “beam” to the beauty & excellency of God

People who worship well, will be a thankful people
(Ingratitude is a worship problem!!!!)

Thankfulness is a vital part of being together in worship



Worship & Thankfulness

Why Is True Thankfulness so Hard??? (100:3)

“Know that the Lord is God...”

Thankfulness is essentially humbling...

There is good reason we don't want to magnify God with our thankfulness...

...it detracts from our own glory and all people by nature love their own glory more than they love God's glory

A truly thankful life requires a **RADICAL HEART CHANGE**

“It is *He who made us*, and we are his; we are His people & the sheep of His pasture.”



Worship & Thanksgiving

Those made new in Jesus
are becoming **JOYFUL & THANKFUL** folk

A psalm. For giving thanks. Shout for **joy** to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with **gladness**; come before Him with **joyful** songs.
Psalm 100:1-2

How does thankfulness become more a part of who you are everyday...not just a once-a-year focus every Thanksgiving??

Matthew 26:26-28 *While they were eating, Jesus took bread, **gave thanks** & broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took the cup, **gave thanks** and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.*

