

6 February 2022

Thanksgiving in church – Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

² Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the Lord, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Five amazing reasons for giving thanks to God

1. “He is God” (v3)

(Acts 10:10-12) “...let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Question 1: Do you have difficulty believing in the goodness of God?

2. “It is he who made us” (v3)

Question 2: We are quick to pray for healing, but what amazing aspect of the human body strikes you as something for which you should give God thanks?

3. “We are his people” (v3)

(Matthew 9:36) “When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Question 3: Why is it important to gather with God’s people?

4. “The Lord is good” (v4)

- *Source of all blessing:*

(James 1:17) “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”

- *Source of all forgiveness:*

(Psalm 86:5) “For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.”

- *Source of all hope:*

(Romans 8:28) "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

(Psalm 145:8-9) "The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works."

Question 4: which of the verses above most challenges you and which most encourages you?

5. "His steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness [endures] to all generations" (v5)

Question 5: How do we come to terms with the concept of eternity?

One command: Come

(v1-2) Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!

Question 6: How do we answer this command?

(v4) Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Question 7: How are we going to approach (a) gathering with God's people and (b) worship differently as a result of the lessons of this Psalm?