

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson with edits by Pastor Pier]

*Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.*

Psalm 95 is a curious contradiction. Here are several reasons why.

- David, who wrote this psalm (see Hebrews 4:7), is an unusual psychological case study.

He spent his youth writing poetry (music) and fighting off the wild animals that attacked his father's sheep. Playing the guitar and slaughtering wild animals does not seem like a common combination of personality traits.

- He became an unlikely national hero as a teen-ager.

He was too young to be in the army, and he was too small to generate anyone's respect. His brothers didn't respect him. King Saul didn't respect him. The prophet Samuel did not respect him. And Goliath insulted him personally and the whole Israeli army in general for both David's youth and his size. And yet the whole world knows how that story turned out.

- In spite of his youth and his physical stature, David turned out to be a fierce warrior on the battlefield.

Battles in David's time were not fought with bullets, RPGs or drone strikes. They were bloody, gruesome, hand-to-hand melees that were in no way designed for someone built like David. But David's battlefield exploits were so legendary that God would not let him build the temple because he had too much blood on his hands. Wrap your head around that one when you're thinking about him as a poet and a worship leader. Question: *"What do you do?"* Response: *"I play the sitar and write music. And, oh yeah, turns out I'm pretty good with a club and a knife, too."*

- His popularity with the people triggered the king's jealousy and David endured 7 years as a rogue outlaw.

Eventually, he ended up in the palace, but his adulthood was anything but smooth sailing. Can you relate? Read the words he wrote above again and let his praise stir yours. We do not worship because our lives are easy, do we? **We worship and lift our thanksgiving to God because He is our Rock.**



November 21, 2021



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;
Youth & Kid's Club
Prayer ½ hour before services

THEOLOGICAL SEED

Colossians 3:12-17

Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body, you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday Evening Prayer – 6 to 7 PM.

Wednesday Bible Study – we will be canceling this week's activities so all can enjoy the special day on Thursday and give thanks to the Lord.

Operation Christmas Child – we will be taking our boxes to the collection site this afternoon. Thanks for your participation.

Thanksgiving Dinner – please join us in the basement for a time of fellowship and Thanksgiving to the Lord. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Men's Ministry – Saturday 8:00 AM, December 4th at pastor's home 299 Woodward Rd, Nassau.

Christmas Musical Practice – no practice this week.

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SERMON NOTES

THE BEST COPING MECHANISM

TEXT: Psalms 100:1-5; Philipians 4:8

I. THE _____ OF OUR THANKSGIVING

A. The 100th Psalm was written for the _____ of Israel.

B. I think also that there is a real _____ in this season of determining our thanksgiving on the _____ of how much we _____.

We let these _____ determine whether we are or aren't _____.

Remember that we got here with the _____ of God, and that He is the _____ of every blessing we have.

II. FIVE THANKSGIVING _____

A. The 1st command – _____, Verse 1

It means to "shout with the force of a trumpet blast," a shout of joy to the Lord that comes from the very depths of your being.

B. The 2nd command – _____, Verse 2a

The Bible teaches that if we _____ on behalf of the Lord, if we _____ the hungry, if we _____ the naked, if we do the _____ of the Lord, whatever it might be, we are _____ the Lord. Matthew 25:45

C. The 3rd command – _____, Verse 2b

D. The 4th command – _____ God.

God is our _____, and we are _____ in His image.

E. The 5th command – _____, Psalm 100:4-5; 103:10