



Celebrate God's Victories

Psalm 47

1. What is your favorite musical One-hit Wonder? _____

2. Describe a time when you had been "on track" with God for a season and then you fell "off track"? _____

3. In the sermon, we learned our spiritual failures do not define us and keep us "off track." Instead, it is when we celebrate God's victories that faith is awakened for ongoing victory. Why is this good news if you feel "off track" or if you feel you are a spiritual One-hit Wonder? _____

4. Read **Psalm 47**. The Psalms are worship songs, and we learn from them that clapping hands and singing loudly are ways to worship and celebrate God together. Have you ever resisted clapping or getting loud in celebration at church? If so, why is that? _____

 - a. Outside of church, where and when do you clap your hands or get loud in celebration (concerts, sporting events, etc.)? Why do you do it? _____

 - b. Read **1 Samuel 16:7**. These expressions of worship/celebration are ultimately about our hearts. How can you use Psalm 47:1 to encourage you to step out in faith and clap your hands and get loud at times before God? _____

5. In verse 2, we see the reason for clapping hands and singing loud at times. It is not based on what we think we should do; it is based on **WHO** He is. He is LORD: eternal, self-existing, with personal loving care for each one of His people. He is the Most High: more worthy of praise and celebration than anything or anyone. He is to be feared meaning because of who He is you are afraid to live APART from Him so you keep running closer and closer to Him. He is the great king over all the earth meaning He ultimately rules over our planet and everything in it.
 - a. Give examples of how an unbiblical view of God affects the way we worship? _____

6. In verses 3-5, we see specifically **WHAT** God has done for us. These verses speak of God sovereignly, ultimately winning all the victories over Israel's enemies for them as they entered the Promised Land.

a. Read **2 Chronicles 20:15**. What does this tell us about God's role in our battles? _____

7. In verses 6-7, knowing and remembering what He has done for us should cause us to sing songs of praise.

a. As you look at your past, name 2-3 specific victories God has won for you? _____

b. How have you celebrated these victories? _____

c. How often do you take time to remember what God has done for you and celebrate? _____

8. Verses 8-9 point us to God's ultimate rule and control over everything and everyone to accomplish His purposes. Every victory that God delivered for the people of Israel encouraged their faith in future victories and the ultimate victory of a King, a Messiah, the whole world would bow before. In the same way, as we celebrate past victories, our faith is awakened for ongoing victories leading to the ultimate victory God has promised us through the work of Jesus on the cross, which is victory over sin and eternity with Him.

a. How does this spiritual principle of celebrating past victories help us avoid becoming a spiritual one-hit wonder? _____

b. What victories can you be mindful of to help you prepare for handclapping, loud-singing worship at church this Sunday? _____

c. How will you encourage the people around you to help them to see God's victories in their own lives? _____
