

This Week's Message: **Awaken**
Wake up to God's grace every day.

Summary

Are you ready for some good news? Jesus is your cornerstone, your righteousness, the grace we need every morning, and our power to forgive. Psalm 118 reminds us the God's salvation is the central theme of the Bible. In the Old Testament God brought Israel through the Red Sea as He rescued them from Egyptian slavery. Thus, Psalm 118:14, 15 quotes the song that Moses and the people sang after they passed through the water. In the New Testament God's salvation is front and center in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Incredibly, we can hear the voice of Jesus in this Psalm. He would have been familiar with its language and themes during His Jewish upbringing. He would have sung its words on the Passover night He was betrayed. When He hung on the cross and rose from the grave He knew the promises of this Psalm were coming to pass – the gates of righteousness would open to Him and His people. And that's the gospel!

Getting to Know Each Other

1. Israel's life was framed by stories, which were passed down through songs, relationships and the rhythms of their calendar. What is a part of your family history or a person from your story that has shaped your life for the good?

Read Psalm 118:19-24

- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.*
- 20 This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.*
- 21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.*
- 22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.*
- 23 This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.*
- 24 This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Getting Into the Bible

1. Pastor Chris points out that the words of Psalm 118 “were the words that were on the lips of Jesus as He went to the Garden of Gethsemane and gets betrayed by one of His own friends.” How do you see Jesus and His work in vss. 19-24?
2. Psalm 118:14 says, “The Lord is my strength and my song and He has become my salvation.” This was Moses’ song. This was Jesus’s song. It is our song. How can these words be adopted into your life as your anthem?

Application

1. Jesus knew the only way we could ever enter the gate of righteousness was if He went first. Where do you need this truth in your life right now?
2. We savor the day by leveraging the past, present and future: we recount God’s faithfulness to us in the past. It becomes an assurance to us that God will be faithful in the future. With it comes the victorious certainty that God is good in our present. Which of these 3 (past, present, future) can you emphasize in your life?