

## August 23rd – Entering Into God’s Presence

*“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.”*  
(Psalm 100:4-5)

I know we live in a day where people elect to remain more secluded, choosing virtual interaction through social media rather than face to face fellowship. And yet there are times when we invite others into our homes, and we also receive invitations as well. When you are invited to someone else’s house, how do you enter their home? Do you come in loud and boisterous? Do you kick your shoes off and make yourself at home in the La-Z-Boy? I’m guessing you were probably raised better than that.

There is a better way to enter someone’s home – saying hello, thanking your friends for the invite, and perhaps even bringing a gift. Have you ever thought about your entrance into the presence of God? The psalmist said we should “enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise.” Gratitude and glory are two sure ways into the presence of God. And likewise, if you have an ungrateful spirit that refuses to praise the Lord for all He’s done, you won’t experience His presence.

Why should we come into God’s presence with thanksgiving and praise? There are too many reasons to mention, but the psalmist gives us three – “the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.” The goodness of God assures of His character, the mercy of God assures us of His kindness, and the truth of God assures of His authority. If God’s goodness, mercy, and truth are not enough to compel you to praise, then you need to make sure you truly know Him.