



Prize The Lord

November 8, 2020 Message Notes

PSALM 100

As we get to know God, what do we get out of it? What do we learn? We learn God cares for us like a good shepherd cares for a flock, and we discover He's on our side. Everyone who truly gets to know God will have reason to say, "Wow! Thank you!" The God who exists beyond time and space has involved himself within time and space because he cares. Praise the Lord!



NOTES

“Enter into His courts with thanksgiving; and His courts with praise!”

PSALM 100:4

Get our praise on!

True praise declares how much we prize the Lord.

“Enter into His courts with thanksgiving; and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him and praise His name.”

PSALM 100:4

The password into God’s presence is *Thank you*. Be sure and bring praises with you.

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving; and his courts with praise; give thanks to him, and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues to all generations.”

PSALM 100

Three Praiseworthy Things:

God is Creator – God is Caregiver – God is Character-driven

When you get to know God as **God**, you discover He’s powerful, intelligent, transcendent, creative, artistic, and loves sharing joy with his creation.

You matter to him, you have **value** to him, and he loves you like family. You share his identity.

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”

PSALM 23:1

God cares and takes care of my needs through provision, protection, and direction. As you get to know God, you discover God’s on your side, and God’s got you covered.

“The Lord is good, his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues to all generations.”



PSALM 100:5

God is not capricious or arbitrary. God is not going to fly off the handle in anger or blast you because he's in a bad mood.

God is good, kind, trustworthy, and of steadfast character.

Everyone who truly gets to know God will have reason to say, "Thank You!"

The God who exists beyond time and space has involved himself within time and space because he cares. Praise the Lord!

We don't give God praise to get God's favor.

What's the difference between thanksgiving and praise? We thank God for what he does. We praise him for who He is.

"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!" "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness."

PSALM 48:1, 29:2

Praise is associated with things in life that are breathtaking, awe-inspiring. Things that make you go, WOW!

Praise says, "*Lord, you are a prize! Prize the Lord.*"

Praise is the opposite of cynicism. Instead of doubt and suspicion, praise is about enthusiasm, which comes from the Greek words 'en theos' or 'in God'.

We praise the Lord in a different way when we *prize* him in a deeper way.

We know his miracle power, creating and recreating us. We've seen his character and felt his caring in keeping promises, answering prayer.

As a church, it's time to go deeper with God.

We have to *get to know* the Lord *as God* – not just head knowledge – but deep acquaintance to recognize and comprehend Him.

Do you know God? Do you want to?



Will you hang with God long enough to get moved? Or will you take your marbles and go home because you're not getting what you want, when you want it?

Praise isn't *spiritual hype* for you to hitch a ride on until you get that spiritual feeling. The reason it's not working for you may be that you're in it for you.

Seek the dove of peace, it will fly away.

Seek to know God as King, the dove of peace finds you.

- You can know God in creation as the Artist is known by his art.
- You can know God in person as the Father is known through his Son.
- You can know God through His Word as the Author shares His story.

"I want to know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings."
PHILIPPIANS 3:10

You can know God within as He makes His home in you by His Holy Spirit. Ask Him.

As we know the Lord as God, enthroned in splendor and grace, it moves us, melts doubt, conquers fear, and helps us see what a prize God is.

Prize the Lord!

