The Oaks Community Church Worship Guide



I. A Call to Worship

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples. Psalm 96:1-3 (NIV)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

The Oaks Priority #7

We are a discipleship focused church. We emphasize growing Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus that reflect Him in character, word, and deed.

Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did. I John 2:6 (NIV)

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. John 14:12 (NIV)

III. Worshipping God Through Our Offerings

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. I Chronicles 29:14 (NIV)



IV. Thanking God Through the Challenges of Life
Psalm 107 & Philippians 4:4-7
Pastor Gary Barber

The Process of approaching God in Worship

We Thank God for His Goodness,

We Praise God for His Greatness,

We Worship God for His Holiness.

¹Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands! ²Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing! ³Know ye that the LORD, He is God; it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves. We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. ⁴Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise! Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name! ⁵For the LORD is good, His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations. Psalm 100:1-5 (KJ21)

❖ Psalm 107

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. ²Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy....⁷He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in. ⁸Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! ⁹For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness. Psalm 107:1,2,7,8,9 (NJKV/ESV)

¹³ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses. ¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their chains in pieces.... ²⁰ He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.... ²² Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing.... ²⁹ He calms the storm, so that its waves are still.... ³² Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people, and praise Him in the company of the elders.... ⁴² The righteous see it and rejoice, and all iniquity stops its mouth. ⁴³ Whoever is wise will observe these things, and they will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

Psalm 107:13,14,20,22,29,32,42,43 (NKJV)

Through Him [Christ] then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. Hebrews 13:15 (NASB)

Thanking God takes reflection and time... it opens our eyes to see how God is at work and strengthens our faith.

Thanksgiving lifts us up out of depression and inspires our hope in the Lord. This then produces endurance in tough situations.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV)

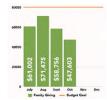
¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. I Thessalonians 5:16-19 (NKJV)

Reflection and Thanksgiving

Church Community Group Discussion Questions (Or Use With Your Family or Friends) – "Thanking God Through the Challenges of Life"

- **1.** Read Psalm 107:1–3. When have you experienced God's goodness in a difficult season? How did gratitude change your perspective?
- **2.** In Psalm 107, the people cry out to God in their trouble and He delivers them. Why do you think thanksgiving is powerful even before the problem is solved?

- **3.** Read Psalm 107:20–22. What does it mean to "offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving"? How can we practice that in our daily lives?
- **4.** Read Psalm 107:27–32, God calms storms. How have you seen God bring peace to a storm in your own life? Is there any storm you need God to calm right now?
- **5.** Read Philippians 4:6–7. What connection do you see between gratitude and God's peace guarding our hearts and minds?
- **6.** Psalm 107:43 says the wise will "observe these things" and understand God's lovingkindness. What's one thing you've learned about God's love through a challenge you faced?
- **7**. Spend some time giving thanks to God. Identify at least 1 thing that is difficult to thank God for -- express your trust in Him that He will take care of that problem and meet that need.
- 8. Pray for one another and your FRANCES.



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YTD Budget Need: \$ 295,280 YTD Tithes & Offering: \$238,866



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