

THANK FULL

Pastor Gilbert Silva

Psalm 100:1-5 (NKJV) Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! ² Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. ³ Know that the LORD, He is God; *It is He who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

⁴ Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name. ⁵ For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, *And* His truth *endures* to all generations.

It is critical to be intentional about expressing thankfulness every day.

When life becomes challenging and our inner world is full with anxious thoughts and emotions, it is easy to lose sight of how gracious God has been and is to us every single day.

“So much has been given to me that I have no time to ponder that which I don't have.” - Helen Keller

It is in that quiet place of reflection on God and His goodness, that the spirit of gratitude is born, and it grows inside us until it bursts forth in outward displays of praise.

The focus of this Psalm is God's goodness, as demonstrated by his love and faithfulness.

Psalm 100:5 (NKJV) For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, *And* His truth *endures* to all generations.

(NLT) For the LORD is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.

(NCV) The LORD is good. His love is forever, and his loyalty goes on and on.

In the three weeks leading up to Thanksgiving Day, we will look at various passages like this one where we are called to a life of gratitude and praise.

The Psalmist's invitation is for God's people to enter His presence with a joyful disposition.

Psalm 100:1-2 (NKJV) Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! ² Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

A Joyful Shout to the Lord - raise a sound, cry out, give a blast.

Psalm 47:1 (NLT) Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

We are called to shout with joy to the Lord for all He is and has done for us.

Serve the Lord with Gladness - work for or worship the Lord with gladness.

Psalm 100:3a (NLT) Worship the LORD with gladness.

Romans 12:1 (NLT) And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

There is a kind of service God doesn't like: complaining service, bored service, and heartless service.

Philippians 2:14 (NCV) Do everything without complaining or arguing.

We should never see working for the Lord as chore but as a cause for rejoicing. We have been redeemed by grace and been given the are privilege to do the work He has called us to do.

Colossians 3:17 (ESV) And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Come before His presence with singing

Ephesians 5:18-19 (NLT) Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, ¹⁹ singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. ²⁰ And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is in that quiet place of reflection on God and His goodness, that the spirit of gratitude is born, and it grows inside us until it bursts forth in outward displays of praise.

Every truth we learn about God results in a new reason for praise and thanksgiving.

Psalm 100:3 (NKJV) Know that the LORD, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Three things the Psalmist wants us to focus on that results jubilant thanksgiving and praise.

- **He is God** – Jehovah, Yahweh, the uncreated self-existent, and eternal Being, is God.

Psalm 95:3 (NKJV) For the LORD *is* the great God, And the great King above all gods.

- **He made us**

God is our creator. We are in this world because of His creative power. As new testament believers it goes beyond just being created we have experienced His re-creative power.

We were dead in our trespasses and sins and He redeemed us and made us a new creation in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV) Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- **We are His people** - we are His personal possession.

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Psalm 100:3 (NKJV) Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

We are under the protective oversight of the Good Shepherd. (Psalm 23)

It is in that quiet place of reflection on God and His goodness, that the spirit of gratitude is born, and it grows inside us until it bursts forth in outward displays of praise.

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

Praise should be visible – The Psalmist said we are to enter His courts with praise. This isn't an activity that is done silently in a corner.

To the Hebrews praising God was always outward and expressive. They communicated praise in different ways.

- **Clapping** - Psalm 47:1 "O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph."

This does not convey the idea of applause, but of a sudden, loud clap that draws attention to the fact that God is receiving praise from a worshiper.

- **Lifting of Hands** - Psalm 63:4 "*Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.*"

Psalm 134:2 "*Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.*"

When the hands were lifted toward Heaven, it was a sign of adoration and praise. It was symbolic of lifting up the Lord and glorifying Him.

- **Dancing** - 2 Samuel 6:14 "And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod."

When David contemplated the presence and greatness of the Lord he danced before the Lord.

Conclusion: It is critical to be intentional about expressing thankfulness every day. We are either thank full or ungrateful. We will be either joyful or joyless. What we will be filled with is our choice. You cannot be both.

"You'll never see a happy ungrateful person." – Zig Ziglar

Psalm 100 (NLT) Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth! ² Worship the LORD with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. ³ Acknowledge that the LORD is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the

LORD is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.