

Home Group Study - Psalm 100

Psalm 100 is the only psalm with the title, "A Psalm of Thanksgiving." The Hebrew word for *thanksgiving* literally means, *confession*. In this case, it means to confess God's character and His works in whole life worship and praise.

1. Psalm 100 starts with two verses of exhortation followed by V3 explaining why. The cycle is then repeated with V4 the exhortation and V5 the explanation. What are the 4 commands given to us in verses 1&2?
2. What truths about God are given in V3 showing us why we should live out these commands?
3. God is our creator, we did not create ourselves. Many people live as though they are the creator and centre of their own little world. What are the dangers of this attitude?
4. If we acknowledge that God created us and gives us all we have, how might our attitudes and lives change? See 2 Corinthians 9:8.
5. This Psalm describes us as 'the sheep of his pasture'. What is it about sheep that makes this analogy so good when describing God's people? See Psalm 23.
6. What are the 3 commands given to us in V4?
7. What truths about God are given in V5 showing us why we should live out these commands?
8. 'The Lord is good.' It is easy to say that, but do you really believe it? Do you believe in God's goodness when you or someone you know is going through trials or difficulties?
9. It is essential that we derive our understanding of God from the Bible, and at the root of who God is we must affirm that He is good. How do the following passages show us that God is good? Genesis 1:31; Exodus 18:9 & Numbers 10:29 & 32; Nehemiah 9:25; Psalm 25:8 & 2 Timothy 3:16-17; John 3:16; Genesis 50:20.

10. God alone is worthy of being worshipped. What is your attitude towards worship? Do you willingly and joyfully come into God's presence, or are you just going through the motions, reluctantly going to church?

11. What does it look or feel like to come joyfully into God's presence? How should a person who does not have a bubbly personality express genuine joy in the Lord?

12. How does someone in the midst of struggle or suffering express genuine joy in the Lord?

13. Psalm 100 tells us to remember God's goodness and dependability, and then to worship with thanksgiving and praise. How has God shown you his goodness and dependability?

14. We are called to 'whole life' worship that goes beyond church and home groups. How do you worship God in the everyday?

15. We typically think of gratitude when we think of thanksgiving. However biblical thanksgiving is closely related to worship and sacrifice. How does this change your understanding of how we express thanksgiving to God?

Prayer Points

- That we would live out 'whole life' worship to God.
- That we would joyfully come into the Lord's presence no matter our circumstance.
- For those who are struggling or suffering, that they would know God and his goodness through it.
- Pray for our Christian brothers and sisters around the world who are living in faith under persecution.
- For our Easter services and for all those who will come.
- That we would grow in the knowledge and love of God as we continue to study the book of Psalms.