

3. How have you experienced the care of God “in His pasture” since the beginning of this year?

4. What are some things that people try to “enter His gates” with other than thanksgiving and praise?

5. READ Isaiah 1:10-17. What sorts of worship activities does God reject as meaningless? What does He accept?

6. Find a person from another generation (older or younger) and ask them to describe God’s faithfulness.

Reconnecting with God, His mission, and His people

Psalm 100

October 7, 2018

A psalm. For giving grateful praise.

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before Him with joyful songs.

³ 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.

⁴ Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise;
give thanks to Him and praise His name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.

¹ **Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.**

The “*joyful noise*” is not singing off tune ☺

It is a welcoming **shout** (Psalm 66:1 and 95:1)

“*all the lands*” is a geographical metaphor for the whole earth!

The **people** of the lands acknowledge God

² **Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before Him with joyful songs.**

Our glad **service** of worship (Romans 12:1) and
our joyful singing in His presence go together.

The Hebrew translated “joyful songs” is a reminder of the
“thrill of **liberation**” (see Isaiah 35:9 and 55:11).

³ **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.**

KNOW THIS: The covenant keeping LORD is God.

Two corollaries:

- a. Our beginnings/origin He made **us**
- b. Our belonging/ownership **we** are His

Our privileged pasture is under His **care** in His fields

⁴ **Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise;
give thanks to Him and praise His name.**

Entering **His** gates and **His** courts is on **His** terms.

Our “*Hello?*” is thanksgiving and praise for what the LORD has done—it is **marvelous** (see Psalm 118:22-24).

⁵ **For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.**

The first sentence echoes the familiar chorus . . .

*“Give thanks to the LORD for He is good,
His love endures forever!”*

The **distance** His praise reaches “*all the earth*” (vs. 1) is only exceeded by the **duration** of His faithfulness “*through all generations*” (vs. 6).

Life Group Homework

Agree/disagree The purpose of singing psalms/hymns is not to teach us new truth about God, but to remind us what we already know is true about Him.

1. Check the ways that you have been involved in helping the peoples of all the earth to shout for joy to the LORD.
 - Giving financially to support a missionary(s)
 - Advocating for a marginal and oppressed peoples
 - Praying for missionaries supported by our church
 - Serving on a short-term mission (one week to one month)
 - Serving on a mid-term mission (one to six months)
 - Serving on a long-term mission (one year and longer)
 - Educating myself about the needs of the world
 - Praying for my local community and neighborhood
 - Writing a letter to encourage missionaries
 - Attending a mission conference. (Check out one in Portland, Jan. 18-19, 2019 <http://missionconnexion.com/>)
 - Befriending a person from another culture in my town
 - Other _____

Want to learn more? missions@silvertonfirstbaptist.org

2. What do you enjoy most about your relationship with God?

What does God enjoy most about His relationship with you?