

Ps. 100 – Simple Pattern

Call to worship: (v. 1-2)

Why God should be worshiped (v. 3)

Call to worship (v. 4)

Why God should be worshiped (v. 5)

A few weeks ago I spoke on prayer from Colossians 1.

Today, we shift our emphasis from prayer to worship.

Through prayer we enter into God’s presence and enjoy fellowship with Him.

Through prayer we ask and receive answers.

As we pray and become more familiar with the presence of God,
our prayers flow into worship of God in love and gratefulness.

Through worship we honor Him as our God, and fulfill our purpose as worshipers.

As we look back at the dedication of Solomon’s Temple we view an unqualified high point in the history of God’s people in prayer and worship.

In Chapter five of 2 Chronicles the Ark of the Covenant is brought into the Temple:

2 Chron. 5:11-14

“... and when they praised the Lord saying, ‘He indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting,’ then the house, the house of the Lord was filled with a cloud, so that the priest could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.” (2 Chron. 5:13-14)

Chapter six records Solomon’s prayer of dedication of the Temple. (vs. 1-42)

“Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the house. The priests could not enter into the house of the Lord because the glory of the Lord filled the Lord’s house. All the sons of Israel, seeing the fire come down and the glory of the Lord upon the house, bowed down on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave praise to the Lord, saying ‘Truly He is good, truly His lovingkindness is everlasting.’”

(2 Chron. 7:1-3)

I. Invitation to Joyful Worship.

In Psalm 100 we see an invitation to **joyful worship**.

¹**Shout joyfully** to the Lord,
all the earth.

²**Serve** the Lord with **gladness**;
Come before Him with **joyful singing**,

Why is worship so joyful? Because God is a happy God.
“In His presence is fullness of joy...”

In this great Psalm God’s redeemed people extravagantly worship God
with loud shouting, happy service, and joyful singing.

Two weeks ago in Paradise, California, a bus driver heroically saved
twenty-two students.

On Nov. 8, Kevin McKay responded to an emergency call. He went to
Ponderosa Elementary, picked up 22 students, and drove them away from
the fast-moving Camp Fire. Knowing his own family had evacuated, he felt
it was his responsibility to make sure so many other children were safe as
well.

"I just knew that things were going to continue to escalate," McKay said.

McKay drove for five hours with traffic often at a standstill and smoke
obscuring his view. But he delivered the children to safety, some 30 miles
away.

I can barely imagine the joyous reunion of those parents and children,
shouting and singing with joy – serving one another with gladness

We have been rescued and restored to fellowship with our Creator.

We were created to have fellowship with God, but at the fall sin separated us
from God and the life He planned for us.

When Jesus was born to Mary, they named Him Jesus as the angel had told them.
The reason – “for He shall save His people from their sins.”

When He died on the cross, it was to restore us to God.

“For He has rescued us from the domain of darkness,

and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” (Col. 1:13)

The Psalm begins with a picture of joyous worship. When we realize What God has done for us our joy will burst out of its silence; it will not be contained! Worship times will burst forth with shouting and singing – gift of a singing heart!

II. The God We Worship

³**Know** that the Lord Himself is God;

It is He who has made us,
and not we ourselves;

We are **His people**
and the **sheep of His pasture**.

1. We praise God because He is our Creator.

He made us and we did not make ourselves.

John Calvin spoke of the self-made man,

“Yet every man makes a god of himself, and virtually worships himself,
when he ascribes to his own power what God declares belongs to
him alone.”

Gen 1-2 speaks of creation, and how we were made in His image.

- Incredible beauty beyond knowing.

Gen 3 is about the fall of man

- where we were broken beyond knowing (Jer. 17:9)

Then Jesus who made us, and who paid for our sins, rescued us with His blood.

In his letter to the Colossians Paul writes,

“For it was the Father’s good pleasure
for all the fullness to dwell in Him,
and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself,
having made peace through the blood of His cross...” (Col.
1:19)

2. We praise Him because He is our Shepherd

Jesus is our good Shepherd who gave His life for the sheep

Two creations: Creation and the New Creation – [salvation]

Eph. 2:10 “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which He has prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Gk. poiama – an on-going expression- Eng. “poem” – ‘*the workmanship of God*’

Who do we worship?

God is Our Creator - who made us.

Jesus is our Shepherd - who saved us.

--*Restoration, Reconciliation,*

Invitation - Realization - Adoration

III. Entering into Worship

⁴Enter His gates with thanksgiving

And His courts with praise.

Give thanks to Him, bless His Name.

Verse 1 speaks of the approach to worship

with joyful shouts of praise, glad service, and joyful singing.

Here we enter into worship.

1. Thanksgiving

Give thanks to Him.

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... and be thankful.

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.” (Col. 3:15-17)

2. Praise

His lovingkindness, and His faithfulness.

God's Character:

1. Good – God's character and nature are pure goodness.

The Lord is good...

“In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved...” (Eph. 1:4-6)

God's character is complete goodness, “for God is love”.

2. Lovingkindness – *hesed*, (used 235 times in OT)

- *kindness, love, grace, favor, mercy, compassion, generosity*

...His lovingkindness is everlasting

Give thanks to the Lord,

for He is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting. (Ps. 136:1f)

His Mercy is forever, endures forever

Ps. 23 – “...and His mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

God's character of lovingkindness is timeless – “**everlasting**”

3. Faithfulness – promise keeper

⁵For the Lord is good;

His lovingkindness is everlasting

And His faithfulness to all generations.

God's faithfulness is man's hope – pardon, deliverance, cleansing, eternal rest in his kingdom forever.