

## **Leader's Notes**

### **Week of March 7, 2010**

#### **Note:**

1. Please watch your discussion. Do not let it become a critique of the worship services at Glenkirk, whether it be a critique of the songs we sing, the volume, etc. Such a critique will get us off the main point of the discussion and will prove the point that worship is more often about us, and not God.
2. In the "Start It" section I ask a question about why some things are on our "thankful" list and others are not. What I am going after here is that we are probably most thankful for the things we have the least ability to provide for ourselves.
3. Coming to "worship" is not so much about our receiving as our giving. Thus it has to do with God and not us. But we often evaluate it from our perspective. This is key to understanding this lesson, worship in general and God's call for us to come before Him on a weekly basis. A call, that because we make it about us, becomes optional.
4. There is a little overlap between the "Study It" section and the "Watch It" section. We are not necessarily going after different answers.
5. Finally for those of you in ABC groups, this is your last week. We will be doing a third series beginning 2 weeks after Easter. I will continue to post questions for those who want to continue, but there will not be a video and it is good to take some sort of break after meeting weekly. You might want to plan some sort of fun activity together or service project.

#### **Jim: some quotes...**

II. B. "Realize that before we even begin, we frame the experience with our expectations. "

II.C. "Your experience here is not entirely shaped by what goes on in this room. Some of it is shaped by what you brought with you."

III.E "One of the things you and I should expect from worship each week is a taste of what's coming for the rest of eternity."

VI. 2 "Church is not for the satiated. Church is for people who are tired and weak and broken, either because the world has been so hard on you, or because you've exhausted yourself serving God last week."

VII. D. 4. "Come for the reality that God is in control, because you need that reality"

#### **Thoughts on Jim's sermon:**

This Psalm is commanding us to praise God; but the imperative given here is coming with some assumptions as well. Jim articulates that these assumptions are about the state of the worshiper before they come to worship. Jim emphasizes an idea of being tired and exhausted from working and giving to God, and this time of worship is a time to hope and expect something that is coming for all eternity.

## **Psalm 100**

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.

Exegeting these verses, we can break down some of the specific parsing and flow of these verbs. The first sentence, before the beginning verse, says, in English, "A psalm for giving grateful praise;" the Hebrew though retaining the same value, is a little more simple, for it has two words: "meezmore" *a melody* and "latodah" *thanksgiving*. The word latoday comes from the Hebrew root Todah which literally means "to thank." In the simplest forum, this verse is calling people to thank God.

Other than that, it is only noteworthy to emphasize that the words "shout, worship, know, enter" in verses 1-4 are imperatives to all the "eratz" earth. The author is commanding the earth to thank God by "shouting, worshipping, knowing, and entering his gates with thanksgiving." The flow of this verse begins with the prologue then moves through verses 1-4 and concludes with verse 5. For in verse 5, it tells us why we should praise and thank Him.

### **Jerry:**

Six reasons:

He created us, He is good, His love endures forever, love/mercy on all generations

"We should come blessing our Lord's name, otherwise our worship is more about us and less about Him."

We worship God when we serve God.

We complain we "didn't like the music" yet all the songs were sung to praise God