

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: November 4, 2007	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: Psalm 100: 1-5
Topic: Grasping Our Lord's Desire... for Rationale in Thanksgiving	



When we give thanks, what is it saying about our self-understanding? Psalm 100 belongs to the category of Congregational Thanksgiving Psalm, as opposed to Individual thanksgiving Psalm. It is not a full thanksgiving psalm but a call to thanksgiving. The reasons offered for thanksgiving in this psalm is God's activity in creation and His love expressed in history. There is therefore in this psalm a universal call to:

- ✓ praise God
- ✓ perceive who He is
- ✓ participate in worship because of His character

For verses 1-2, there is something for everyone to hear, i.e. acclaim the Lord with:

- ▲ shouting (1)
- ▲ smiling (2a)
- ▲ singing (2b)

This is a call to see that there is a summons to obey. We need to understand the Gravity of the matter because the fact is we give thanks out of regard for the Scriptures.

There is something for everyone to know as expressed by verse 3. God is to be acknowledged because He is the:

- ▲ Sovereign of life (3a)
- ▲ Supplier of life (3b)
- ▲ Shepherd of life (3c)

This is a call to see that there is a study to occupy. This demands that we understand the Greatness of the matter because we give thanks out of regard for our Source.

Verses 4-5 speak of the idea that there is something for everyone to do, i.e. appreciate the Lord by:

- ▲ how we enter His House (4a-b)
- ▲ the expressions from our Hearts (4c)
- ▲ what is entertained in our Heads (5)

This is a call to see that there is a schedule to observe. This demands that we understand the Goal of the matter because the fact is that we give thanks out of regard for our Sustainer.

When we give thanks, we are saying that we are gaining a true estimate of ourselves, in the light of who God is. Let us therefore seek to grow in our knowledge of God, that our thanksgiving and perception of self may be more authentic.