

Thanksgiving Commandments

Psalm 100

I. Intro

- A. Call to be thankful today – put aside any worries, concerns, etc. focus on hearts full of thankfulness
- B. First step (Song) – “Count your many blessings name them one by one”
- C. How we should always enter into the Lord’s house for worship
- D. Commands in all scripture, not to make life hard/difficult but make life meaningful, give purpose for living; not just 10 commandments or law
- E. Even Jesus – a lawyer who was a Pharisee: Matthew 22:36–40 (ESV)
 - ³⁶“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”
 - ³⁷And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
 - ³⁸This is the great and first commandment.
 - ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
 - ⁴⁰On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”
- F. Today – another set of commandments, Thanksgiving Commandments; 5 from Psalm 100, very familiar passage of scripture

II. 1 – To Shout

- A. **READ Psalm 100:1**; ... *Make a joyful noise*
- B. Most human beings don’t have a problem showing excitement – sporting events, celebratory occasions (graduations, births, baptisms)
- C. Some churches, showing any excitement almost seems taboo
- D. Worship in the corporate setting is meant to be corporate – everyone worshipping together, everyone participating in worship together
- E. No problem with *Amens* or *Praise the Lord* during worship
- F. Think about what we have to make a *joyful noise* about – cross of Jesus where all of our sins were paid, where Jesus became the once-for-all sacrifice for us, where He died in our place so we wouldn’t have to; the cross wasn’t pretty – horrific, gruesome – but for us who have been saved it is a beautiful, glorious thing and we should shout it to the world
- G. Think about what we have to make a *joyful noise* about – the resurrection of Jesus when death was defeated and life everlasting became a reality for those who would believe that Jesus absolutely was the Son of God and Savior of the world
- H. Those should be way more exciting for us than a touchdown, home run, scoring a goal, or any accomplishment/achievement
- I. Shouldn’t be able to help but to *Make a joyful noise*

- J. **Question:** Who is to follow this commandment? ... *all the earth*; literally translated – everybody, the whole world
- K. The whole world, because of Jesus Christ and what He has done, should *make a joyful noise*
- L. The day is coming ... **Philippians 2:10–11 (ESV)**
 - ¹⁰... that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 - ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

III. 2 – To Serve

- A. **READ Psalm 100:2a**; Serving ... *the Lord with gladness*
- B. If the presence of the Lord makes us joyful then serving Him should make us happy; we should be thankful for any opportunity to serve Him
- C. When serving becomes a chore or burden then we've lost the joy of the Lord
- D. Many of our people serve the Lord in many ways – preaching, teaching, with children and/or youth, visiting others, building/ground maintenance, sharing the Gospel – we're all many parts, filling many roles/functions, of the same body; so thankful for everyone
- E. Those who serve out of duty/obligation, their service isn't pleasing to God
- F. **Question:** How do we *serve with gladness*? By reminding ourselves we serve because we're serving the Lord, not serving man; we serve because we're thankful for what He has done for us, what He continues to do for us, and what He will do for us in the future
- G. **Question for all to ask ourselves:** Would we still be thankful even if the Lord never did anything else for us ever again? Can we be thankful just simply because He is Lord?
- H. Leads into next thanksgiving commandment ...

IV. 3 – To Sing

- A. **READ Psalm 100:2b**; whenever we're in the presence of the Lord (which we should want to be all the time), we *Come into His presence with singing!* (exclamation point – with excitement, enthusiasm)
- B. Why we sing in worship; not to just fill time, keep the sermon from going too long; not about going through motions, or keeping with tradition
- C. We sing because we're grateful; if singing with excitement/enthusiasm bothers anyone then there's going to be a big surprise when we all get to heaven; *When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be; when we all see Jesus, we'll SING and SHOUT the victory*

D. Corporate worship comes out of the expression/continuation of our individual worship; can't live any way we want Monday thru Saturday, then come on Sunday and turn on our worship buttons

E. Greatest song book ever written – Psalms; Psalm 96:1–4 (ESV)

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

²Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

V. 4 – To Submit

A. READ Psalm 100:3

B. Jesus Christ is God, not Buddah, Muhammad, Allah, or Oprah, Biden, or Trump; for some people, they are their own god – God is god and we are not; John 1:1, 14 (ESV)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

C. Not only is Jesus God, but we are His creation, products of His hands; not just here by random chance; we're here because God created us and He's chosen to use us to share Him with those who don't know Him

D. The world says to *honor self, look out for self – number one, do all we have to do to make sure WE are happy and comfortable*

E. When we realize that only God can save us and we can't save ourselves then living lives of thanksgiving naturally flow out from that realization

F. Therefore, we humbly and obediently submit to His Lordship over us

G. ... *we are His, we are His people, the sheep of His pasture; we are not our own*

H. 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV)

¹⁹ ... do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? **You are not your own,**

²⁰for **you were bought with a price.** So glorify God in your body.

VI. 5 – To Sacrifice

A. READ Psalm 100:4

B. Two primary sacrifices we are to make

i. **1 - Praise, thanksgiving sacrifice; specific sacrifices given in the Law (Leviticus)**

ii. **2 – Self sacrifice**

a) **Luke 9:23–24 (ESV)**

²³And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him **deny himself** and take up his cross daily and follow me.

²⁴For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever **loses his life** for my sake will save it.

b) **Colossians 3:3–4 (ESV)**

³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

C. Integral part of this sacrifice is to *Give thanks to Him; bless His name*

D. 1 Thessalonians 5:18–19 (ESV)

¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit.; **when we’re not thankful, when we’re not expressing our thankfulness, we’re quenching the working of God’s Holy Spirit in our lives and in our church**

VII. Close

A. Question: Why are thanksgiving commandments so important? Reason given in last verse of passage – **READ Psalm 100:5**

B. The God that I serve is good; the God I believe in has a love that is steadfast/unchanging/unwavering/unconditional; the God I know is faithful, and to be anything different He wouldn’t be God

C. Charles Spurgeon quote: “*It is very questionable whether a man can know himself until he knows his God.*”

D. The opposite of thankfulness – selfishness

E. God’s thanksgiving commandments: to shout praise/worship Him only; to serve Him with hearts of gladness; to sing new songs of rejoicing; to humbly submit to Him in obedience; to sacrifice all we are, all we have, to give Him alone our sacrifices of praise