



Psalms

Week 3: How to Worship when You're Grateful

CCV Groups Discussion Guide

OPENING QUESTION:

Open group today by sharing things you're grateful for – how has God shown up in your life this week? What is an unexpected blessing you've experienced?

GROUPS VIDEO GUIDE

READ:

[Psalm 118](#) and [Exodus 15](#)

DISCUSS:

- Psalm 118 is a song of thanksgiving and victory that sounds a lot like Exodus 15. Read those two passages and identify their similarities. In what situations in your life do you find it most challenging to give thanks and declare victory?
- Psalm 118:22–23 speaks of the stone rejected by the builders becoming the cornerstone. This is quoted in several New Testament passages (see [Matthew 21:42](#), [Acts 4:11](#), [1 Peter 2:7](#)). How is Jesus like a cornerstone or a keystone?
- Psalm 118:22–24 refers to the crucifixion and Psalm 118:25–26 was sung by the crowds during Jesus' triumphal entry. How does Jesus' action and attitude during these horrible events instruct us how to live with gratitude during difficult days?
- Psalm 118:1 and 29 are identical wording: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" What conclusions might you draw from this, specifically, what is the role of gratitude during difficult events in life?
- What are some practices you could implement this week to increase your own level of gratitude to God that might make your current struggles a bit more bearable?

PRAYER:

Focus your prayer time today on gratitude by remembering the things you talked about at the beginning and expressing that gratitude directly to God. Declare his goodness!

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:

Table Talk (a question to ask your family): Share something you are thankful for about each person at the table.

Water Cooler (a question to ask at work): Is there someone here that you are especially grateful for?

SCRIPTURES:

Matthew 26:30, “And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.” (and Mark 14:26)

Luke 13:35, “Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

Mark 11:9, “And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

Matthew 21:9, “And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!’”

John 12:13, “So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!’”

Matthew 21:42, “Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”

Acts 4:11, “This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.”

1 Peter 2:7, “So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,’”

Ephesians 2:20, “...built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,”

Isaiah 28:16, “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: ‘Whoever believes will not be in haste.’”

Zechariah 10:4, “From him shall come the cornerstone, from him the tent peg, from him the battle bow, from him every ruler—all of them together.”

Ezra 3:10, “And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments came forward with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the directions of David king of Israel.”