

Great Commission



Baptist Church

Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher



**A Book of Praise and
Devotion
Life Group Curriculum
May – August 2020**



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

The Book of Psalms
May - August 2020

Lesson I

May 3, 2020

PAGE 1

Praise God for His Creation

Psalm 104: 1-18

Lesson II

May 10, 2020

PAGE 3

God's Glory is Eternal

Psalm 104: 19-35

Lesson III

May 17, 2020

PAGE 5

God's Redemptive Power

Psalm 107: 1-16

Lesson IV

May 24, 2020

PAGE 7

Deliverance from Sin and Storms

Psalm 107:17-32



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson V

May 31, 2020

PAGE 9

God's Power Over Nature

Psalm 107: 33-43

Lesson VI

June 7, 2020

PAGE 11

Praise the Exalted God

Psalm 108: 1-13

Lesson VII

June 14, 2020

PAGE 13

A Slandering Tongue

Psalm 109: 1-20

Lesson VIII

June 21, 2020

PAGE 15

Save Me According to Thy Mercy

Psalm 109: 21-31

Lesson IX

June 28, 2020

PAGE 17

The Lord's Ruling Power

Psalm 110: 1-7



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson X

July 5, 2020

PAGE 19

The Greatness of God's Work

Psalm 111: 1-10

Lesson XI

July 12, 2020

PAGE 21

The High and Glorious Lord

Psalm 113: 1-9

Lesson XII

July 19, 2020

PAGE 23

God Neither Slumbers Nor Sleeps

Psalm 121: 1-8

Lesson XIII

July 26, 2020

PAGE 25

Joy in the House of the Lord

Psalm 122: 1-9



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson XIV

August 2, 2020

PAGE 27

Help Comes from the Lord

Psalm 124:1-8

Lesson XV

August 9, 2020

PAGE 29

Labouring in Vain

Psalm 127: 1-5

Lesson XVI

August 16, 2020

PAGE 31

God's Righteous Power

Psalm 129: 1-8

Lesson XVII

August 23, 2020

PAGE 33

Hoping and Waiting for the Lord

Psalm 130: 1-8

Lesson XVIII

August 30, 2020

PAGE 35

A Habitation for the Lord

Psalm 132: 1-18



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson I

Date: May 3, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 104:1-18

Praise God for His Creation

Lesson Aim: The student will see the greatness, majesty, reign and domination of our God through creation and how he provides and sustains us all.

Open It

1. What pet peeves have you heard people voice about nature or the environment?

Explore It

1. What imagery is used to describe the sky?

2. How is God involved in the events of the earth?

3. How is the earth described?

Get It

1. What can we learn from observing creation?

2. What have you learned about God from the psalm writer's meditation on creation?

3. What role do you think Christians should take in protecting the environment?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Apply It

1. What words of praise can you offer the Lord for His creation?
-

Summary: Psalm 104 begins the same way that Psalm 103 began and ended with the psalmist praising the LORD. This time the psalmist is praising the LORD for His greatness as Creator. He paints a vivid picture of how all creation is under God's control i.e. clouds, wind, earth, water, mountains, animals, grass, trees and even mankind. God created them all for a specific purpose and expects it all to operate the way in which he created it too. It's amazing how God provides and sustains the universe and all that is within. He knew just what each one would need to function properly. When you stop to look at all that God has created, it's breath taking. He's seen all throughout creation, for in Genesis 1, He's the same God that spoke the world into existence, created everything out of nothing and then said it was good. This reminds me of a song written by Carl Boberg, "How Great Thou Art". It says, O LORD my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the works thy hand hath made. I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed. Then sings my soul, My savior God to thee. How Great Thou Art! How Great Thou Art!

And today, if we would consider all the wonderful things that God has created, we too can, will and must join in with the psalmist and praise God- Our Creator.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson II

Date: May 10, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 104: 19-35

God's Glory is Eternal

Lesson Aim: The student will see that all creation belongs to God, shows forth His glory and operates according to His plan and is dependent upon Him.

Open It

1. What is the most beautiful scene or landscape in your memory?

Explore It

1. How is the orderliness of earth emphasized?

2. What did the psalm writer learn from observing the sea?

3. In what ways does the earth and all life depend on God?

4. What vow concludes the psalm?

Get It

1. How should our actions reflect our belief in God as Creator?

2. How does this psalm inspire you to praise God?

3. How have you seen God involved in the events of your life?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

4. In what areas of your life do you need to depend more on the Lord?
-

Apply It

1. When could you take some time to worship God through observing His creation?
-

Summary: This lesson is a continuation from last weeks lesson. Remembering how God is the creator of the entire universe and how everything is under His control and in His great wisdom, how everything was perfectly thought out.

God established an orderly pattern for all creation. Even the sun and moon do only what God appointed them to do. They stay in their proper place and fulfill their God given assignment. Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if mankind could do the same thing?

The world is full of God's creative workmanship. Everywhere we look we see God. He is the source of life and all creation is dependent upon Him. God is the glue that holds all things together. Colossians 1:16-17. After the psalmist considers all God's creation, how he provides, sustains and reigns over it all, he prays that the glory of the LORD endures forever, let God enjoy His creation. He vows to praise God all his life with the highest praise- Hallelujah! That says it all!



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson III

Date: May 17, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 107: 1-16

God's Redemptive Power

Lesson Aim: The students will learn about their Sovereign Redeemer's marvelous works.

Open It

1. What's one instance of discipline that was particularly effective on you when you were a child?

Explore It

1. What is the focus of the introduction of the psalm?

How did the psalm writer want Israel to respond to God's forgiveness and deliverance?

2. What punishment did Israel receive for her rebellion?

3. How did the Lord respond to Israel's cry for relief from His discipline?

Get It

1. What was the main weakness of the Israelites?

2. Why did the Lord show mercy to Israel?

3. How does God's treatment of Israel encourage you to trust in Him?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

4. When have you experienced God's discipline in your life?
-

Apply It

1. What practical steps can you take to trust in the Lord, even in the good times?
-

Summary: As the world deals with the impact of the Coronavirus, it is important to remember that the LORD is still in control. The same Sovereign God that allowed this pandemic to happen is going to be the same Gracious God who will crush it. This is the power of our Almighty God and we should render all praises unto His name. The unknown psalmist gives us six reasons why we ought to give thanks unto the Most High God. The first reason we ought to give thanks to the LORD is because He is good and His mercy is everlasting. The psalmist writes in verse 1, **“O give thanks unto the LORD, for *he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*”** The psalmist uses a strong volitional request in this verse which indicates a command. Without the LORD being good and merciful, Adam and Eve would not have experienced His goodness and mercy in the Garden of Eden.

The second reason we ought to thank the LORD is because He fights our battles. The psalmist writes in verse 2, **“Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;*”**. The psalmist is possibly speaking about his ancestors' deliverance from exile in Babylon in which he possibly experienced. Regardless if he was reminiscing on the exile of his ancestors in Egypt or the exile he may experience in his life, it was by the arm of the LORD. The third reason we ought to thank Him is because he delivers us away from our anguish. The psalmist writes in verse 6, **“Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and he delivered them out of their distresses.*”** The Hebrew word for *delivered* in this verse means *to snatch away*. The fourth reason we ought to thank Him is because of His mighty works. The psalmist writes in verse 8, **“Oh that *men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!*”** The culmination of His works is redemption of our souls. The psalmist's thanksgiving turns into praise. The fifth reason we ought to thank Him is because He has saved us from distress. The psalmist writes in verse 13, **“Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and he saved them out of their distresses.*”** The sixth reason we ought to thank Him is because there is no one like Him. The psalmist writes in verse 15, **“Oh that *men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!*”** Jehovah's marvelous work of redemption is worthy of all our praises.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson IV

Date: May 24, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 107:17-32

Deliverance From Sin and Storms

Lesson Aim: The students will learn about the deliverance of the LORD from both ourselves and from external forces.

Open It

1. What's one instance of mercy that you remember being shown to you?

Explore It

1. What further discipline did Israel endure for her sin?

2. How did God demonstrate His mercy to the Israelites?

3. What did the Psalmist want Men to do?

4. Describe the storms of the sea.

Get It

1. In what way is Israel a good example to us?

2. What does this psalm reveal to us about God's character?

3. How can we guard against the temptation to rebel against the Lord during the good times?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

4. How should we respond to the Lord's involvement in our lives, whether it be discipline or blessing?
-

Apply It

1. If you are going through a difficult time in your life, what does this passage encourage you to do?
-

Summary: This is a continuation from last week's lesson. The psalmist begins to write about the fool being afflicted because of his sins. The biblical meaning of the Hebrew word *fool* is a person who does not fear God (Proverbs 1:7). King Solomon records that this person has done abominable and detestable things. The psalmist gives us two examples of the LORD delivering the children of men. The first example is recorded in verses 17- 22. It deals with afflictions caused by personal sins. The psalmist writes in verse 17, **"Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted."** The consequences of their foolishness are afflictions. The Hebrew word for *afflicted* is in the middle voice. In other words, the fool is performing the action and is affected by it. This act results in sin. The foolish people in this verse fed themselves with all manner of food disregarding the Mosaic dietary laws (Leviticus 3:7, 11:47; 17:12-14). As a result, they were near the gates of death. In their distress they cried out to the LORD and was saved. He sends word and heals them from their destruction. This deliverance ought to cause them to praise the LORD for His goodness and for His wonderful works towards the children of men. The children ought to offer the sacrifices of thanksgiving and declare His works with rejoicing.

The second example of deliverance is recorded in verses 23–32. It deals with trouble a person experiences from external sources outside of their control. Others at sea in ships see the works and wonders of the LORD. These are possibly experienced sailors who were engaged in business. Jehovah controls the winds and the waters. It is His command that rises the stormy winds and lifts the waves. This amazes the sailors on the sea. The psalmist writes in verse 26, **"They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble."** The waters rise and sink to levels unimaginable. The sailors' souls faint because they were overwhelmed by the storm. The psalmist writes in verse 27, **"They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end."** The sailors did all they could do and were at the point of drowning. The only life line available was for them to call the LORD. The sailors cried out to the LORD, and He heard their cry. He brings them out of their distresses. The Creator makes the storm calm and the waves still. The people are glad because of the marvelous work of the LORD. This deliverance causes the sailors to praise God.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson V

Date: May 31, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 107: 33-43

God's Power Over Nature

Lesson Aim: The students will learn about the goodness and wonderful works of the LORD towards the children of men.

Open It

1. Why do judges sometimes grant mercy to defendants who have been found guilty of a crime?

Explore It

1. What imagery is used to describe the Lord's destruction and restoration of the land of Israel?

2. What advice to the wise concludes the poem?

3. What is the focus of the conclusion of the psalm?

4. What exhortation does this psalm give to God's people?

Get It

1. How can going through difficult experiences either strengthen or weaken a person's faith in God?

2. How could experiencing good times have a negative impact on a person's spiritual growth?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. How do you think the Lord wants to be involved in the high and low points of our lives?
-

4. What does it mean to "consider the great love of the Lord"?
-

Apply It

1. How could you thank the Lord today for His forgiveness and mercy?
-

Summary: This is a continuation of the past week's lesson and is the final lesson in this psalm. We have seen the power of God over nature. There is not a storm or force more powerful than the Most High God. The psalmist writes, **"Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"** The children of men experience the mighty arm of the LORD. Mankind ought to praise the name of Jehovah for His goodness and marvelous works. The name of God ought to be exalted in the congregation of the people and praise in the assembly of the elders. It is Jehovah who turns rivers into a wilderness, and water springs into dry ground. He turns a fruitful land into barrenness because of the wickedness of men that dwell there. He turns wilderness into a standing water and dry ground into water springs.

The psalmist gives five actions performed by the LORD to both the children of men and the wicked. He gives instruction to the children of men to praise God for his actions. The first action is performed in verse 36. The psalmist writes, **"And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation;"** The LORD provides for the children of men and causes them to dwell and prepare a city. Jehovah gives them all the resources necessary for this task. The second and third actions are performed in verse 38. The psalmist writes, **"He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease."** The LORD blesses the children of men by multiplying their family and causing their cattle not to decrease. The fourth and fifth actions performed by the LORD are found in verse 40. The psalmist writes, **"He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, where there is no way."** The Almighty God pours contempt on the wicked in prominent places, and causes them to wander in the wilderness. The wicked's pride causes Jehovah to abase them and send them to a destitute place where there is no hope (Proverbs 6:16-19). It is the LORD who delivers the poor from their afflictions and multiplies families. The righteous shall see this and rejoice. The righteous will speak about the blessings of the LORD instead of speaking blasphemous words. It is only the wise who will observe these things and understand the lovingkindness of the Most High God.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson VI

Date: June 7, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 108: 1-13

Praise the Exalted God

Lesson Aim: The student will understand that our God is worthy of all the praise. He is faithful toward His servants. He alone gives us the victory.

Open It

1. On what sources of help do you rely?

2. When was a time you felt helpless?

Explore It

1. What commitment did the psalm writer make to the Lord?

2. How did the Lord feel toward the Israelites?

3. What imagery is used by the psalm writer, and what is its effect?

4. How did Israel feel about their own strength in battle?

5. What did the psalm writer expect from God?

Get It

1. What commitment have you made to the Lord?

2. What are the benefits of telling others about what God has done for you?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. What kinds of things prevent us from sharing our testimony with others?

4. In what area of your life do you need the Lord's help or guidance?

Apply It

1. How do you plan to follow the psalm writer's advice about worshiping God?

Summary: David opens up this Psalm praising God for his faith that is established, fixed, and firm in the LORD. David praises Him for His faithful (loyal) love toward him, for all that he has done and will do. David knew that God was faithful to help, in the times of trouble, those who belong to Him. Verses 1-5 are similar to Psalm 57: 7-11. David has confidence now because of what God had already done in the past for him. When you've got history with God, when he's delivered you before, you know without a doubt, what God can actually do. Before David asked God for anything, he praises Him. Early in the morning, it is a blessing to wake up with God on your mind, seeking Him as the priority of your day. Appreciating God for who He is.

Verse 6, David asked for God's help: save us and help us with your right hand, that those you love may be delivered. God's right hand represents power and authority and those who belong to Him, He loves and helps. David was not just asking God for deliverance (being rescued from his enemies), but for the victory (total defeat) because he knew it belonged to God and God alone.

Verses 7-13 appear also in Psalm 60:6-12. David knew that what seemed impossible with man's help would be a triumph, if he would trust God for the victory, because only God could bring the outcome that the psalmist longed for.

Todd Dulaney sings a song that says: "Victory Belongs to Jesus"

Who will stand against our God? No one can, No one will. Who can stand against our king? No one can, no one will. (Oh,Oh,Oh) (Oh, Oh, Oh) Victory belongs to Jesus, Victory belongs to Him.

So, no matter the trial, test, battle, situation or circumstance that we may face. Let us continue to do like David- trust God for the victory!!! And then praise Him, again, and again, and again, because the LORD is on our side.

Aim and Summary by Annette Brown, Dip. TH.



Lesson VII

Date: June 14, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 109: 1-20

A Slandering Tongue

Lesson Aim: Learn to handle personal attacks on your knees in prayer by letting God fight your battles. React in love the way that God would have you to and trust Him with the outcome.

Open It

1. How do you think it would feel to be falsely accused?

Explore It

1. What are the specific details of the dilemma David faced?

2. How did David describe himself?

3. How is David contrasted with his false accuser?

4. How far did David want his adversary's punishment to extend?

How is the enemy's character depicted?

Get It

1. When have you felt overwhelmed by problems?

2. How can we follow David's example in dealing with our fears and disappointments?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. What can we learn from this passage about how to present our requests to God?
-

Apply It

1. What steps can you take this week to follow David's example in dealing with the challenges you face?
-

Summary: *Psalm 109 was written when David was facing great persecution, He was being pursued by a persistent enemy. In these verses he describes his enemy as being a liar who used words against him and fought against him for no reason.*

Psalm 109 reflects a common problem which many of us have experienced. This problem describes the reactions of a man who has been unjustly and wrongly treated. He is attacked by those who are attempting to destroy him without cause. This is a Psalm of someone who is deeply disturbed. It reflects something that David has experienced although we are not told what it is.

In vv1-5 we see one who is attacked by unscrupulous persons who cannot be trusted. They are deceitful, wicked and they do not care about what they say or do. They are out to destroy with "lying" tongues. But in spite of the attacked the Psalmist tries to answer his accusers in the right way with love. Yet, they continue to attack.

IN vv 6-15 The Psalmist cries out to the Lord and is revealing what the accusers are saying and what they wish would happen to him. They are relentless in their attacks and hostility toward Him. They desire for him to be physically destroyed. The ultimate goal of their hatred is that God would damn the Psalmist.

This man is in a terrible situation with his enemies trying to take his life. He has tried to react the right way but it does not seem to work. What he does is beautiful. He commits the whole matter to the Lord in prayer in v 20. This closing prayer is a marvelous picture of the right attitude, the right relation and the right way to handle this kind of situation.

Can you follow the example of this Psalmist to turn your issues over to God and to go on trusting Him?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson VIII

Date: June 21, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 109: 21-31

Save Me According To Thy Mercy

Lesson Aim: Members will learn to go through persecution and trials victoriously so that they bring glory to God as they become a testimony to others. Let His power be demonstrated in their lives.

Open It

1. What would you do if you were charged with a crime you did not commit?

Explore It

1. How did David feel about his predicament?

2. How did David describe his own suffering?

3. Whom did David want to receive the credit for his deliverance?

4. What did David expect from the Lord?

5. What vow did David make to the Lord?

Get It

1. What should be our motivation in seeking the Lord's help?

2. What are your most pressing needs now?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. How does this psalm encourage you to change your prayer habits?
-

Apply It

1. What steps could you take to demonstrate your confidence in the Lord to provide your needs?
-

Summary: Verses 21-31 contains the prayers and praise of David. Even in the midst of great persecution by a might enemy (he commits herself and his cause to the Lord, He praises the Lord mightily. In the midst of his praying , his desire for the Lord to be honored is evident in v 26-27 “ Help me o Jehovah my God; save me according to thy loving kindness, that they may know that this is thy hand; that thou Jehovah has done it”.

As a faithful son of the covenant David knew that he could ask God for help when needed. His desire was that God might be glorified by showing mercy to His servant (vv 21,27) He wanted God to do some wonderful thing that only He could do , and this would tell his enemies that Jehovah was fighting his battles.” Magnify your mercy” was David’s cry.

He wanted the Lord to be mindful of his needs, for he was “poor and needy” (vv. 22-25). He had a broken heart, and he felt as if his life was fading away like the shadows of evening. His grip on life was feeble and he could be shaken off at any minutes. So, he asked the Lord to send him a blessing every time his enemy cursed him and to bring shame to the enemy but joy to His servant.

Finally, David promised to praise the Lord and give glory to Him when all these trials were ended and he did. After David had been king over all Israel, he brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem and sought to honor the Lord (2 Samuel 5-6).

God did help David in His own time and His own way, and so He will do the same for us when He takes us through the trials in our lives. What new challenges are you facing that only God can help you meet?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson IX

Date: June 28, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 110: 1-7

The Lord's Ruling Power

Lesson Aim: Students will willingly receive the Lordship of Christ and the responsibilities and blessings that come with it. They will realize that the only viable choice in eternity is Jesus, our Priest and King.

Open It

1. How do you think a leader should respond to insubordination?

2. In your opinion what sort of person would make an ideal president?

Explore It

1. What imagery is used to describe the defeat of the enemy?

2. What did the psalm writer mean when he said that the Lord would extend the scepter of His chosen one?

3. What promises are contained in this psalm, and to whom do they apply?

4. What did David predict the Lord's anointed would do with God's help?

Get It

1. What does this psalm reveal to us about God's authority?

2. Why should we respect God?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. What does this psalm reveal to us about God's reliability?
-

4. In what area of your life have you hesitated to rely on God?
-

Apply It

1. What small need would you like to trust the Lord to meet this week?
-

2. In what way can you show thankfulness to God at each meal for His provision?
-

Summary: David is the writer of this Psalm. In this Psalm we see a description of various aspects of the coming of Jesus. It also portrays the strife and turmoil caused by those who reject Christ; His faithful people who faithfully and willingly serve Him and His exaltation and victory and glory.

Glorious things are spoken of Christ. Not only is he to be superior to all the kings of the earth, but he exists in glory as the eternal Son of God. He is sitting in a resting position, after service and sufferings, to give law and to give judgment. This is a remaining position; he sits as a king forever.

All of His enemies are in chains. His people are a willing people who will honor Him with holiness,

Christ will not only be King, but a Priest. He is both Ruler and Intercessor for us. He reigns today from a throne of grace (Hebrews 4:14-16). Jesus as our intercessor gives us a solid hope and anchor for our lives. He is our perpetual priest (Hebrews 7:23-28).

Those who have exalted themselves against the Lord will be "shattered" and "judged". That day is coming!

After the final judgment scene of wrath fades, peace returns and the King rests in judgment (v7).

There will be new heaven and a new earth; a new order of things which you and I may share a part in the heavenly kingdom of the Father (1 Corinthians 15:23-28).

Has His kingdom been set up in our hearts? Do we desire to be holy? Are we His willing subjects?



Lesson X

Date: July 5, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 111: 1-10

The Greatness of God's Work

Lesson Aim: Life Group Members will remember to praise God for His works and deeds in their individual lives, the church and world and the benefits that His works and deeds bring.

Open It

1. What do you enjoy most about corporate worship services?

2. How do you think we could become more comfortable with worshipping God in the presence of others?

Explore It

1. In whose company did the psalm writer promise to praise the Lord?

2. On whom does God bestow blessings?

3. How are God's precepts described?

4. What results can people expect from following the Lord's principles?

Get It

1. What words of advice in this psalm hit home to you?

2. What are the benefits of praising God in the company of others?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. What does it mean to fear the Lord?

4. What do you think are the most important precepts the Lord has given us?

Apply It

1. What small steps could you take this week to obey the Lord in one area that you have struggled with in the past?

2. In what way could you praise God with others more often?

Summary: The Lord is to be praised for His Works. We usually take a keen interest in the projects and activities of those we deeply love. So, it is natural that we should love to study the works of God recorded in the Bible. The Psalmist resolves to praise God for His great and marvelous works of redemption that lead people to fear Him. He suggests or recommends that the works of the Lord and of his providence toward the world, the church and particular persons should be the focus when we are praising Him.

God's pardoning of sins is the most wonderful of all of his works, and ought to be remembered to his glory. The Psalmist enumerated the marvels of God' works which the Lord has made memorable. The Psalmist says that God is gracious and compassionate; He gives food to those who fear Him; He faithfully keeps His covenants; His works are established by His covenants and He faithfully performs them. God's works are faithful, and His Word is dependable.

The works of God humbly and diligently sought into shall all be found just as holy. He is holy in a way that prompts people to fear Him. No man is wise who does not fear the Lord; no man acts wisely except as influenced by that fear, this fear will lead to repentance, to faith in Christ, to watchfulness and to obedience.

The Psalmist concluded that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. People who follow Him and His standards have good understanding regardless of how poor, unlearned or despised. Worship and obedience will then be accompanied by praise that belongs only to Him.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson XI

Date: July 12, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 113:1-9

The High and Glorious Lord

Lesson Aim: In this psalm, the psalmist calls for all Servants, Saints and Sinners to recognize that praising the LORD now (present) and will be (Future), is paramount from the raising of the Sun until the going down of the same.

Open It

1. Who are the needy people in your community?

2. What do you think is effective or ineffective about government programs (such as welfare, unemployment compensation, Medicare, etc.) that help people with special needs?

Explore It

1. Whom does the psalm call to praise the Lord?

2. What imagery is used to describe the extent to which the Lord deserves praise?

3. What imagery did the psalm writer use to depict the circumstances of the needy?

4. What example is used to characterize the needy?

Get It

1. Why should we praise the Lord?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

2. What are the benefits of meditating on God's holiness and greatness?

3. How has God stooped down to meet our needs?

4. How have you experienced the Lord's compassion in your life?

Apply It

1. How could you creatively remind yourself throughout each day to worship the Lord?

2. What offering of praise can you give to God today in anticipation for what He will do for you?

Summary: In today's Christian culture, we sing special songs for special occasions. Christmas carols are an example of this custom. During the season when we celebrate Christ's becoming a man, we sing specific songs about His birth. Similarly, the Jews had special songs for particular occasions. Psalms 113–118 form a group of songs that were used in Old Testament times as part of their religious festivals. These psalms were especially important in the celebration of the Passover. In Jewish homes everywhere, Psalms 113 and 114 were sung before the Passover meal, and Psalms 115–118 were sung at the close of the meal. Among many Jewish groups, this tradition continues today. This custom makes these particular psalms especially significant for us who follow Jesus Christ. Our Lord sang these very songs as He observed the Passover and instituted the Lord's Supper with His disciples before His crucifixion (Mt. 26:30; Mk. 14:26).

The psalmist appeal touches all the bases, of praising the LORD [horizontally] (1-3) and [vertically](4-6). Who is to be praised? The **LORD**. Who is to do the praising? The psalm specifically calls for praise from the **servants of the LORD**—that is, from those who know and revere him. He also implies by his reference to the rising and setting of the sun that all men from the east to the west owe praises to The LORD. How long is praised to be offered? All day, every day and throughout the eternal day! So, this psalm calls for universal and eternal praise.



Lesson XII

Date: July 19, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 121: 1-8

God Neither Slumbers Nor Sleeps

Lesson Aim: In this psalm students will not have to question, “Where does my help come from? Well, let to be clear, that it was not the hills, but the one who made the hills, **The LORD.**

Open It

1. Can you think of any hymns of the faith that have impacted your life? and how?

Explore It

1. What attribute of the Lord’s character is mentioned in this Psalm?

2. What kind of assistance does the Psalmist promise us from the Lord?

3. What description does the Psalmist paint about the Lord’s Time?

4. How does the Psalmist describe the protection by the Lord?

Get It

1. From where do YOU expect help to come in any of the issues or trials currently going on in your own life?

2. Is our first concern in a time of crisis the quality of our faithfulness or the desire to escape?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. Are there any situations, any factors that you're not fully trusting in God's overriding authority?
-

4. Is there a persistent issue in your life that might be traced back to the fact that you think the influences are too big even for God to help?
-

Apply It

1. Do you wonder if God slumbers, why He doesn't act as quickly as you would like or deem necessary? How should you interpret the time that goes by before you see His help arrive?
-

Summary: This is a Psalm that worshippers would sing as they made their way possibly to Jerusalem to participate in an annual feast. Its been said that sometimes there enemies would hide in the hills waiting to attack them. But the psalmist says plainly says **the LORD** for some five times to remind us and encourages us that it is he who keepeth us in our pilgrimage, our journey, and it began the moment that we received Jesus as Lord and Savior and it will continue until we step out of this life and into eternity. That means that this is a pilgrim's song. It speaks of the dangers of a journey that when they go out and come in, it is the LORD, Creator, sustainer who keeps His people at all times and in all perils, who is our helper, keeper, and a preserver to His people along the way.

The pilgrimage of the faithful to the temple is a picture of our journey through life as believers. We are strangers and pilgrims on this earth, confessing plainly that we, too, seek another country (Heb. 11:13-14). Likewise, our journey can be exhausting, difficult, and sometimes dangerous. But as we press on, we lift up our eyes to the heavens and are strengthened by the assurance that the One who awaits us there also walks with us here.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson XIII

Date: July 26, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 122: 1-9

Joy in the House of the Lord

Lesson Aim: By the end of this lesson students will be better able to regard worship in the Lord's house, with the Lord's people, as the highlight of the week and look forward to it more and more with each passing day.

Open It

1. Do you agree or disagree that churches must provide entertainment to draw people to them? Should we attend church primarily to get something or to give something? Explain.
-

Explore It

1. What kind of attitude did the Psalmist have toward worship?
-

2. Describe what the Psalmist experienced when he got inside the walls of Jerusalem.
-

3. What did the Psalmist ask the people to do?
-

4. What would the Psalmist seek in the Psalm?
-

Get It

1. Describe how you feel when you are on your way to the house of God.
-



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

2. How can we follow the psalm writer's example when we get to the house of God.
-

3. What should be included in our prayers when we are in the house of God?
-

4. What are we looking for when we come to worship?
-

Apply It

1. Who can we share our worship experience with this week?
-

Summary: The psalmist is A Song of Ascents. Of David, the worshiper, man after God's own heart, (I Samuel 13:14), (Acts 13:22) Now David also knew that when he missed worshipping God in the temple of God because he was on the run from Saul, he would be most miserable. (Psalm 63:1-7). And for God's people, when you see other people who don't take the time to worship God but prosper as though they don't need Him nor regard Him. Well, David had a problem with that, he had almost slipped, so he called them foolish. Psalm 73:1-22. Highlight V.17. David knew where he could find help and that was in the sanctuary of God. Saints there's so much more we can learn in this psalm. But I just don't have the time to really give justice to this text, however, let me leave this with you and I'm sure you can agree with me on this: There's seven things this psalmist shares with us. **Consider This:** This is what he looked forward to (1) V.1-2 The **Travel** (pilgrimage) to the house of God, (2) v.3 The **Territory** (Jerusalem) the city where David united the tribes, (3) v.3-4 The **Temple** the place of Worship. (4) The **Tribes**, God's people meeting together at the gates. V.4 The (**Testimony**) of the worshippers. (5) The (**thrones**) that they honor. (6) The prayers and the praise of (**Thanksgiving**) and (**Tranquility**) in the present of God. Now and lastly a **closer look**. Don't be like (doubting) Thomas when after the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to the disciples on the first day of the week and the Bible said Thomas wasn't there. [John 20:20-29] We as Christians should take the opportunity to Worship God. As we see the day approaching especially on Sunday.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson XIV

Date: August 2, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 124: 1-8

Help Comes From the Lord

Lesson Aim: In this psalm before the end of the texts students will be able recognize that whatever situation that life brings them they “would say “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side” things would have been overwhelmed and against us.

Open It

1. Can you think of a time that your circumstances felt like they had flooded or overwhelmed you?
-

Explore It

1. Who was on the side of Israel?

2. How did the Psalmist describe the attack of the enemy?

3. How does the Psalmist use to describe how the soul escapes?

4. Who helps the Psalmist?

Get It

1. Have there been occasions in your life when you were under attack but the Lord proved He was on your side?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

2. How did He come to your assistance?

3. How can you maintain vigilance against Satan?

Apply It

1. What areas of your understanding of God need to be stretched, shaped or strengthened?

Summary: Everything depended on that *if*. It spelled the difference between deliverance and disaster. But the Lord *was* there, and that made all the difference. Probably no people have had as many narrow escapes as the Jews. According to all-natural laws, they should have been extinct long ago. When you think of the sieges, the massacres, the pogroms, the gas chambers, the ovens, the bombs, it is a miracle they have survived. But survive they did—and that for one compelling reason—the **Lord was on their side**. Unfortunately, the nation has not always been willing to acknowledge that fact. Too often they have chalked up their victories to their own cleverness and power. But there have always been those godly Jews who realized that apart from the Lord, they would have been exterminated.

As a Christian there are times and circumstances when the Lord moves and provides in ways that are beyond our understanding or comprehension. All we can seemingly say is, "If it had not been the Lord"... Notice 3 things that Psalmist tells us that we could not overcome if it had not been for the Lord. Note these phrases: they would have-- swallowed us alive, v.3, overwhelmed us, v.4, and gone over our soul. Note references, [Psalm 56:1-2, 129:1-2, 56:1-2. Hebrews 4:14-16] Finally, Psalm 124 is an honest prayer and reminds us that no matter how difficult our lives become; God is on our side. Paul even said in the Epistle to the Christians in Romans 8:31-32,35, 37-39).



Lesson XV

Date: August 9, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 127: 1-5

Labouring in Vain

Lesson Aim: The students will learn the necessity of including the LORD in every aspect of their lives.

Open It

1. What steps would you take in building a structure (i.e patio, house etc.)?

Explore It

1. What is the LORD'S activity in verse 1?

2. Who does the Psalmist say that we should depend on?

3. How does the Psalmist describe children?

4. What emotion are we to have for children and why?

Get It

1. What is the foundation you are building your life on?

2. How are children a blessing?

3. How must we remind ourselves in the tough moments that they are not a burden?

4. What are the benefits of having a good self-image?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Apply It

1. What ways can you depend on the Lord today?
-

2. What firm foundation must we stand on to properly stand and aim our arrows?
-

Summary: This is a Song of degrees for Solomon. According to BibleHub.com, “Song of degrees is a title given to fifteen Psalms, from 120 to 134 inclusive. Four of them are attributed to David, one is ascribed to the pen of Solomon, and the other ten give no indication of their author.” King Solomon gives us wisdom for everyday living in the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Psalm 72, and Psalm 127. He gives us insight about living life with or without God in those books. Solomon writes, “The fool hath said in his heart, *There is* no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, *there is* none that doeth good (Psalm 14:1).” The Bible declares a person is a fool when they reject the LORD and their laboring is in vain.

Solomon gives us two real life illustrations to persuade the readers that life with the LORD is fruitful and life without the LORD is in vain. The first illustration is recorded in verse 1. He writes, **“Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh *but* in vain.”** Man must be obedient to the LORD in order to follow the path of righteousness and must not live on bread alone (Deuteronomy 8:3). He must trust Jehovah in every aspect of his life. Solomon writes in verse 2, **“*It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.*”** The LORD blesses the beloved with sleep even in a time of crisis. Man is frail and limited in his own ability so he must faithfully trust his Creator. The second illustration is recorded in verse 4. He writes, **“As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth.”** The arrows in the hand of a mighty warrior is compared to the man having children early in his marriage. The LORD increases the families on the earth and expects his servants to train up their children in the fear of the Almighty God (Proverbs 22:6). Children are an inheritance given by the LORD. Solomon writes in verse 5, **“Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”** The English word *happy* was translated from the Hebrew word *esher* which means *blessed, happiness, or prosperity* in this context. The LORD continues to bless the man with children so he is ready for the enemies at the gate. His children will defend him at the gate.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson XVI

Date: August 16, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 129: 1-8

God's Righteous Power

Lesson Aim: The student will learn how to respond when they are in the face of persecution and to rely on God's Power.

Open It

1. What do you think will happen to those that oppose Christ?

Explore It

1. What was the result of Israel's affliction?

2. In this Psalm, what happened to the wicked?

3. What did the Psalmist ask God to do to those that hated them?

Get It

1. How hard is it to bless those who persecute you?

2. How should believers respond to unbelievers' taunts?

3. How can you benefit from suffering?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Apply It

1. What specific steps can you take to prepare for any persecutions?
-

Summary: Like Israel, believers can expect persecution (2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Pet. 4:12). The world hates Christ, just as it hates the nation that brought Him forth. Psalm 129 offers instruction and inspiration to Christ's followers today who are persecuted and oppressed.

In spite of all that Israel has survived, the worst is yet to come for the nation. Prophecy, not history, tells of the fiercest attack that will come against Abraham's seed. It will take place during a period known as the Great Tribulation, a time when the nations of the world will unite with all their strength against God's chosen people. Jesus affirmed the prophets' predictions, stating that this assault will be the most ferocious Israel has ever faced (Mt. 24:21). Even so, this tiny nation will prevail once again, for Christ Himself will return to earth and personally destroy her enemies.

Instead of returning evil for evil, the Jews committed the conflict to the Lord and trusted Him to vindicate His own people (Rom. 12:17-21). Jewish harvesters often blessed one another as they worked in the fields (Ruth 2:4), but no blessing would be given to Israel's enemies, for they were rebelling against the God of Israel. First, these enemies would be turned back in disgrace because they could not eradicate Israel, then they would wither away, and finally they would be mowed down and used for fuel. But the people of Israel can always say to the world, "We bless you in the name of the Lord," because Israel has brought to the world the knowledge of the true and living God, the Scriptures, and the Savior. "Salvation is of the Jews" (John 4:22).

When people treat you like dirt because you belong to Jesus, remember the ABCs of this psalm: accept it, benefit from it, commit it to the Lord.



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson XVII

Date: August 23, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 130: 1-8

Hoping and Waiting for the Lord

Lesson Aim: The student will learn that if they turn away from their sins, they will receive forgiveness of their sins.

Open It

1. Have you tried to handle your personal crisis without God's help?

2. What was the outcome?

Explore It

1. In Psalm 130, the writer cries out for the Lord's mercy. What is mercy?

2. What does the Psalmist ask the Lord to do?

3. What did the Psalmist ask the Lord to take in account?

4. What attribute describe the Lord according to the Psalmist?

5. What did the Psalmist ask the people to do?

Get It

1. Share a time when you were in need of the Lord's mercy.

2. What does the Lord's forgiveness look like?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

3. What words of hope has the Lord given to you through the Scriptures?
-

4. Are there things you're waiting for from the Lord?
-

Apply It

1. How can you encourage others who are waiting for God to answer their cries?
-

Summary: The unknown author of Psalm 130 was drowning in a sea of guilt because of his sin. When he cried out to the Lord for help, God answered by giving him a thorough understanding of His grace and complete forgiveness. The guilt-ridden psalmist grasped the truth taught so powerfully by the scapegoat: God has no record of the sins of those who have accepted Christ's sacrifice as payment for their sins. When the Lord forgives, He forgives completely. This absolute, eternal forgiveness is the only remedy for guilt. To celebrate this glorious truth, the Jews adopted Notice that the psalmist not only addresses God as the Lord (Jehovah) but also as the Lord (Adonai). By calling God Lord, which means master, he indicated that he was God's servant.

The psalmist was in dire need of God's forgiveness because only God could really forgive him. Only God could rescue him and keep him from drowning under the weight of his guilt. He begged the Lord to hear his voice as he cried out for mercy. His double use of the word *voice* emphasizes that he cried to God out loud, not just silently from his spirit. When we find ourselves so deep in our own iniquities, we need to cry out to God. We need him to attend his ear to us, so that he will rescue us. A lot of times, he will not rescue us right then, but at His time, he will rescue us and then we need to celebrate and praise the name of our God. We as believers have a lot to be thankful for and we have a lot to praise and worship God for. As we look back on our own lives and we see that God could have taken us out, when we were in the depth of our own sins, and see that we are still here today and standing, it out to cause a shout from our spirit.

We should expect God to do everything He has promised. God's work in our lives is not completed instantly when we believe in Christ and receive His forgiveness. Rather, our salvation marks the *beginning* of God's redeeming work in us. We are forgiven immediately when we repent and turn to Christ. However, many aspects of our salvation, such as sanctification, holiness, and Christlikeness, are accomplished progressively in us as we grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ through His Word.



Lesson XVIII

Date: August 30, 2020

Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 132: 1-18

A Habitation for the Lord

Lesson Aim: The student will understand the importance of attending church services.

Open It

1. What view do you embrace, the assembling of the saints together is important, or it is not necessary to go to the church building? Why?

Explore It

1. How did David feel about the house of the Lord?
2. Where did David hear of the ark and where did he find it?
3. What were the priest to be clothed in?
4. What did David say that his enemies will be clothed in?

Get It

1. Today the glory of God resides within and among God's people. In what ways are you aware of that? How does it affect what you do?
2. Believers today enjoy an unbreakable covenant relationship with God. Why is this covenant unbreakable?
3. Do you agree or disagree that someday Jesus will rule from a throne in Jerusalem? Why?



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Apply It

1. What ways can you share with someone this week that the church building is where God wants to meet us for worship?
-

Summary: David is one such leader whose memory is cherished by the nation of Israel. To this day, he is celebrated as one of the Jews' most valiant heroes, and he is remembered as Israel's greatest king. As genuine believers, we also regard David as one of our heroes. We rejoice in the fact that our Savior is his descendant and will one day sit on the Davidic throne. The people asked the Lord to remember David's devotion to Him. Spiritually speaking, it was David who had laid the foundation for the magnificent temple where they worshipped. Years earlier, he had brought the Ark of the Covenant to Zion, and he had fervently desired to build a sanctuary for the Ark. David's devotion to God provides a worthy example for us to follow. We should be willing to sacrifice and endure hardships for the Lord, just as David did. Too many professing believers are unwilling to sacrifice for the Lord. Some do not tithe or give offerings because they are unwilling to sacrifice their money. Others do not serve the Lord because they are unwilling to sacrifice their time. Jesus was very clear about the cost of being a disciple. Following Him requires denying ourselves and being willing to leave everything behind for Him. He demands that we take up our crosses and follow Him (Mt. 16:24-25).

The people recalled how David, the passionate worshipper, followed through with his vow. He located the Ark of the Covenant and brought it back to Jerusalem. Then, he reinstated the worship of God in the sanctuary where it was placed. All of this was the fruit of David's deep desire to seek God's presence often and to worship Him. Today, God is searching for people like David, people who love to worship Him. Jesus said that God seeks genuine worshippers who will worship Him in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:23-24). David went to excruciating lengths to bring the Ark to Jerusalem. He prepared a place for the Ark to rest until a temple worthy of God could be constructed. Even after the Lord told him that Solomon, rather than he, would build the temple, David still prepared the plans for it. On top of that, he provided as many of the materials for it as he could, and stirred the people to give the rest. He even bought the land upon which it would be built. Why? Because he loved to be in God's presence, and he wanted God's presence to dwell in a temple truly worthy of Him.

We will live forever in the light of the Lord's presence in the New Jerusalem, the heavenly capital of the new earth (Rev. 21:23-24;22:5). Our tears will be wiped away forever. Never again will we feel sorrow or pain (Rev. 21:4). All unrighteousness and all evildoers will finally be abolished (Rev. 21:8,27). We will serve Christ joyfully, see His face every day, and reign as His royal bride forever



Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Life Group Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Lesson Aims, Summaries by Rev. Joseph Ellzey Jr. B.S., Earline Franklin, Rev. Terrence Howard TH.M., Annette Brown, Dip. TH., and Bobby J. Williams Sr., Diploma (SBI) 2020

All Questions are from the Adult Questions for LESSONMaker

All editing and copying by permission only, 2020.

Cover Graphic Designed by Dr. Dale Allen DCS, BBA, TH.M., D. Min, 2020