



1/12/26

Today's passage reminds me a little of when we have baptisms... telling of the wondrous works that brought people to confess Jesus as their Lord. I find those celebrations to be huge encouragements to my faith. I think the psalmist knew the wonderful benefits of telling each other of all that God does. I pray that you and I will encourage each other with our stories of what God has done in our lives. I think that's one of the many reasons God says not to keep from gathering together as a church. I also think that remembering His goodness helps us not to get stuck on our frustrations. He thinks of everything!!!

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalm 105:1-8

It's so easy for me to read the words, "Oh give thanks to the LORD," and to just move on. But I want to slow down and consider every command in these few verses. There's so much reason behind each command.

Command: Oh give thanks to Yahweh. Why? He is personally involved in every aspect of my life. He was involved in the psalmist's life. He was involved in Noah's life. He's involved in my life. I give thanks to the Lord for Jesus. What would my life matter if I didn't have the eternal hope given through Jesus. I give thanks for how He redeems even my hardest circumstances. I give thanks to Him for His compassion and mercy.

Command: Call upon His name. Here's what blows me away. The Almighty God who rules above all thrones and dominions, who created the heavens and the earth and all that are in them by His spoken word, says I can call on Him and He will answer me. Why wouldn't I call on Him?

Command: Make known His deeds among the peoples! Don't be silent about all the works He's done. Tell all the people He puts in my path what He's done. He sent His Son to be my Savior because I could not save myself... no one can. Help people to understand the hope of the gospel, the purpose and promise of the rainbow, the works He's done in my personal life to heal my

suffering and forgive my sin.

Command: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him. Music is so powerful. It stirs emotion and knowledge together. It can be used to build up self... and to draw attention to self... or it can be used to point to the grace and truth of God. Let it be for His honor and glory.

And sing TO Him, not just ABOUT Him. It is a personal relationship. It's not just about telling or singing about what I know. It's about honoring Him in deep personal relationship, like a little girl singing for her Dad. That's who He is... my Dad.

Command: Tell of all His wondrous works! Pay attention to the extraordinary things God has done... He calms the storm. He gave His Son to pay my debt with His precious blood. He restores. He reconciles. He changes hearts.

Command: Glory in His holy name. Celebrate His holiness. I don't think I'll ever fully understand this side of heaven why His holiness is so important. His holiness is a purity that doesn't exist anywhere else. It makes all His other attributes that much more priceless. And I get to glory in His holiness... personally celebrating Him in close relationship.

Even as I record these commands, I realize that I am the one who gets the greater blessing. Obedience to His commands is not a burden. It's a blessing.

Command: Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD Yahweh rejoice! This is a command to rejoice, but it's attached to seeking the LORD. When I seek Him, I will always find reason to celebrate. I need to seek Him with my heart and I need to celebrate with my heart... that means a deeper seeking and celebrating. It's not just checking a box. It's letting my heart experience it. It means being intentional in my purpose.

Command: Seek the LORD Yahweh AND His strength. Seek Him. He promises that when I seek Him, I WILL find Him. I need to seek His strength because I have no power to withstand the struggles of life without His strength. When I do seek Him and His strength, I will have His strength. He never withholds it from those who seek Him. I don't have to prove myself to Him. I just have to seek Him.

Command: Seek His presence continually. The Hebrew actually says, "Seek His FACE evermore." How close do you have to be to someone to see the details of their face? God wants me to be so close to Him that I can see His face... continually, forever. God will never abandon me. God is never absent. One of His blessings for me from Numbers 6 is that He makes His face to shine on me.

Command: Remember His extraordinary works, His miracles, and His judgments. Why? I need to remember His incredible faithfulness of the past so that I have confidence to trust Him for whatever comes tomorrow. No matter how bad things look, remembering how He provided in the past will always give me hope for how He will sustain and provide in the future.

Who are these commands to? Offspring of Abraham... God's chosen ones. Does that include me? Galatians 3 tells me it does. By faith, I am the offspring of Abraham. And 1 Peter 2:9 says that I am a part of His chosen race. I can apply all these commands and the hope behind them to my life because God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and He has chosen and saved me. Praise His name.

What is the basis of my obedience to His commands? Why be thankful? Why sing to Him? Why seek His presence?

- *"He is the LORD our God." He is Yahweh Elohim... my personal, all powerful, wholly invested most high God.*
- *"His judgments are in all the earth." Whether I can see it or not, He is fully aware of all the unrighteousness going on in the earth, and He will bring His judgment down. For now, I see it in little ways. Someday, I will see His final judgment. Even when I don't see His patience waiting to bring down final judgment, I still see His powerful provision and protection for me in my daily life.*
- *"He remembers His covenant forever, the word He commanded for a thousand generations." This is where it is so awesome to know that I'm living under the new covenant, not the old. The old covenant was conditional, based on obedience to God. It's not that I want to be disobedient, I'm just sure I fall short of perfection. But the new covenant is unconditional, based on the sacrifice of Jesus. I can be absolutely sure that God is remembering His covenant with me and never forgetting it... never abandoning His promise. This is reason to thank Him and sing to Him and tell everyone about Him. I don't have to keep Him to myself. He's got plenty of love to go around.*

O Lord, I WANT to obey You in these commands. You give me so much reason to seek You. Thank You for remembering Your covenant to me. I pray that I will always remember You. Then obedience to You will never be a struggle. You don't have to prove Yourself to me. You already have. I just need to remember.