

Title: "All My Springs Are in You"  
Text: Psalm 87  
Date: March 19, 2023

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## Big Idea

Psalm 87 has a lot to teach us about global missions. We see, first, that it's all ultimately God's doing; second, that it's for all peoples (even our enemies); and, third, that it advances as an overflow of joy in him!

### Lesson #1: It's by God's Doing (vv. 1-3)

When these psalmists mention this city they're talking about the place of God's reign and rule, the place of restored relationship between God and man, the place where the curse is undone and things are made forever right. They're talking about paradise, about heaven, about the world as it should be. It's what was pictured in the promised land with Jerusalem, or mount Zion, with the temple and the coming together of God and man by way of the altar of sacrifice. But that picture was ultimately pointing to the new Jerusalem, a heavenly Jerusalem, as John tells us about in Rev. 21:1-7. And this city is founded by God, with Jesus as the cornerstone.

*Implication #1: We Have No Right to Change the Message*

*Implication #2: We Have No Power to Make Things Happen*

### Lesson #2: It's for All Peoples (vv. 4-6)

God wants us to see that what he has in mind here with this new Jerusalem and new covenant isn't just for Israel as she's ethnically defined. It's for all peoples who would, in a sense, come into Israel, come into the people of God, through Christ, the promised offspring of Abraham (cf. Gal. 3:26-29). But more than that, with this list of na-

tions and cities God gives us back in Ps. 87:4, the most scandalous part about all this is the fact that every nation or city on this list, at one point or another had been a bitter enemy. And yet all of these are said to be, in some way, a part of the citizenship of Zion (cf. Eph. 2:11-22)!

These verses were meant to jar the Jewish people I think—to wake them back up to their purpose, to their mission, to the reason he saved and blessed them in the first place. God had always saved them with a view to saving the nations. He'd always blessed them with a view to blessing the nations. But in the midst of that blessing and things, they forgot their purpose. Let's not forget ours!

### Lesson #3: It's from an Overflow of Joy (v. 7)

A spring as you know, in one sense, has two dimensions to it. It has both depth and breadth. There is something subterranean, underground. And then there is something that spills over and flows out. And I think this is a helpful image, because usually when it comes to missions we think of that second dimension: the breadth, the outflow. We think of the waters flowing to the nations and bringing life there. And that is good.

But, and here's the critical point, the only way a spring gets breadth is if it also has depth. If we don't have depth we won't have breadth. We will dry up. But as we give ourselves truly to deep relationship with God, where we're soaking in grace, and marked by satisfaction and joy, we won't be able to help but have breadth, because he will move our hearts with the things that move his!



## Reflection Questions

- Which of the three lessons for global missions identified above seems most significant to you personally right now and why?
- If you were the Israelites reading (or singing!) this psalm, how would you feel when you came to v. 4 with its references to your historic enemies? Be honest. Why should such a thing be, not troubling, but encouraging?
- As we close out this year's Missions Emphasis Week, what's one way you could apply what you've been learning to the weeks and year ahead?

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## Our Mission & Values

*Mercy Hill Church exists to help restore us to God, neighbor, and city through the good news of Jesus Christ.*

**FAITH:** The Way Back to God | We are redeemed to enjoy intimate presses our church *upwards* in love

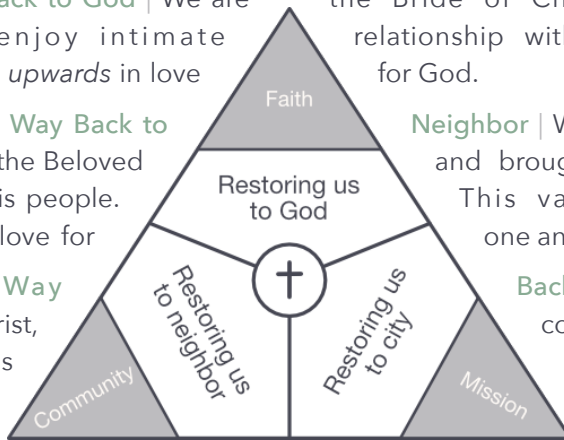
the Bride of Christ, created and relationship with him. This value for God.

**COMMUNITY:** The Way Back to Christ, adopted in the Beloved relationship with his people. church *inwards* in love for

**Neighbor** | We are the Family of and brought into covenantal This value presses our one another.

**MISSION:** The Way the Embassy of Christ, Savior to be his value presses our in love for the

**Back to City** | We are commissioned by the ambassadors. This church *outwards* unbelieving.



## Your Next Steps

When approaching the Christian faith and life, it can be confusing to know where to even begin. Come find us at the Next Steps Table after the service—it would be our joy to help you along in the journey! And if you're a visitor, we have a special gift bag for you. Don't miss it!



**Mail:** PO Box 23806, San Jose, CA 95153  
**Phone:** (408) 320-7080  
**Email:** [info@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:info@mercyhillchurch.org)  
**Web:** [mercyhillchurch.org](https://mercyhillchurch.org)



Welcome to Mercy Hill Church.  
We are so glad you've joined us today!

## Announcement Spotlight

### All Church Prayer - Tonight!

Prayer is the start of everything good (Acts 1:14). It is the death of self-reliance and the lifeline of faith. It is the moving of our eyes outward and upward. It is the stretch of our empty hands towards a Father rich in mercy.

As a church we prioritize this regular prayer meeting because of our deep-seated conviction that, while man can plant and water, it is only God who can cause the growth (1 Cor. 3:7).

This Sunday's prayer meeting will held in-person at 6:00pm at the Wilson Residence. Scan the QR code below for more info.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at [info@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:info@mercyhillchurch.org).

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