



# Weekly Devotions & Study Guides

## *“Make Some Noise!”*

### **Monday, November 23 Read Psalm 100**

Read this short psalm through a few times and savor its tone of joy and celebration. What does this psalm tell us about God? What does it say about human beings and the nature of our relationship with God? \_\_\_\_\_ In what ways is this celebratory attitude to be a *shared* experience among the people of God?

Reflect on some ways we can better come together in these challenging times.

### **Tuesday November 24 Read Ezekiel 34:11-16; 20-24**

Quite early on readers of this prophecy understood this as a foretelling of the coming Messiah. As we begin the Christian year with the season of Advent, reread this passage and reflect on the ways Jesus fulfilled the promise. As you read, replace words like “them” and “they” with your own name. How does this change your reading? \_\_\_\_\_

Share a prayer of thanksgiving with God today.

### **Wednesday, November 25 Read Luke 17:11-19**

It’s easy to hear some real sadness in Jesus’ voice in v.17. Sure, the lepers are happy they’ve been healed but how quickly they forgot the source of that healing, especially the ones (the non-Samaritan Jews) who really ought to know better! How often do we stop, take special account of being blessed and fall to our knees before God?

Note that giving thanks, according to v.19, is a vital part of faith. How are you proclaiming your thanks and appreciation to God? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon notes for**

### **“Make Some Noise!”**

**November 22, 2020**

- 1. To be blessed is to see life through the lens of holiness and reverence.**
- 2. Faithful people count their blessings by...**
  - A. ...pausing to appreciate.**
  - B. ...publicly proclaiming their thanks.**
  - C. ...holding nothing back in their worship and discipleship.**

**Thursday, November 26 Read Deuteronomy 8:7-13**

This is a very appropriate passage for Thanksgiving Day. As we revel in abundance, how is the warning Moses shared with the people of Israel relevant to us today? \_\_\_\_\_

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If there was no big meal, no football game and no family gathering, would you still feel thankful and blessed? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday, November 27 Read Ephesians 1:15-23**

At its heart, Paul’s prayer for his church is that they come to an ever deeper knowledge of and relationship with God. As that connection deepens, the way they view and interact with the world will change (see vv.17-19) and they will experience true abundance. That’s still the hope for Christians today. How are you taking new and deeper steps in knowing God? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do those steps look like? \_\_\_\_\_

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If you don’t feel the relationship is deepening, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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Discuss this with God in prayer today.

**Saturday, November 28 Read Psalm95:1-7**

Today, how do you plan to praise God? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are you praising God for and how does such an attitude of praise mark you such that the rest of the world can see it? In other words, what will be your “joyful noise” today? \_\_\_\_\_

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**An Exercise in Blessedness...**

Take a moment and reflect on what you consider today (or this week) to be your top three blessings. Write them down with a brief explanation of why:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Now, prayerfully consider ways you can show your appreciation for those blessings ...

...to the people for whom you are thankful.

...to God who is the source.

...to the wider world as a witness and testimony.