

**Notes**

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<b>Joy to the World</b>	
Psalm 98	December 23, 2018
<b>Sermon Series: The Songs of Christmas</b>	

**The Big Question:** What happened at Christmas?

1. God did a great thing.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. God made salvation known.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. God revealed his steadfast love.

These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

## **Discussion Questions**

Date: December 30, 2018

### **Psalm 98**

1. Last Sunday we sang *Joy to the World*. When Isaac Watts wrote that song, he used Psalm 98 as his inspiration. He wanted *Joy to the World* to become a sort of New Testament version of Psalm 98. How does the New Testament give a richer meaning to Psalm 98 that its original readers would have understood?
2. Read Simeon's prayer in Luke 2:29-32. Based on this prayer, how did Jesus's birth fulfill some of the prophecy of Psalm 98?
3. The Psalmist writes in Psalm 98 that God "made known his salvation." How is it that Jesus *is* God's salvation and is not only *the path* to God's salvation?
4. Read Luke 19:40 and Psalm 98:4-9. What do these verses tell us about the praise that God deserves and the places from where it will come?
5. The psalmist tells us that in Jesus, God revealed his steadfast love. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 and 1 John 4:9-10. How was (and is) Jesus the revelation of God's love to our sinful world?
6. Last Sunday, Pastor Craig asked the question, "What happened at Christmas?" How would you answer that question? How would you explain to a non-Christian what really happened at the first Christmas and what can happen in their life as a result?
7. Family verse: Read and memorize Psalm 98:1. Talk about some of the "marvelous things" God has done in your own life.