

Thursday, March 27

Read once again Luke 10:1-23. There were several “take away” lessons from the message. Praise acknowledges the holy character of God and is a natural response to joy. Praise helps us to define the nature of God and our relationship with God. We also learned that praise is one form of adoration with thanksgiving being the second. What other lessons can you take away from the message? What are your thoughts about praising our God with great enthusiasm and demonstrative actions? Have you ever raised your hand in worship as a sign of devotion and a demonstration of appreciation for what is going during a worship experience? How do you praise and rejoice? Meditate on these questions and write your thoughts here. There are no wrong answers or reflections; just an awareness of the variety of ways in which people express their faith and appreciation for what God has done in our life and our world.

Friday, March 28

Read Psalms 100 and 150. Read them a second time aloud. Perhaps you’d like to keep a beat by clapping your hand or using a sturdy table top or footstool as a drum. Maybe you’d like to hum or sing these jubilant Psalms. Yes? No? Maybe? How do you feel when you read these words? Think about how these ancient Psalms were really the worship book of Jesus’ people, the Jews. What an amazing thought that Jesus would have recited these words! Read the Psalms one more time. Think again how these words make you feel considering that Jesus would have said or sung them also. Write your reflections here as we seek to honor our loving Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer with our praise.

Message Notes – March 23, 2025

*Praying With Jesus – Praise God**

- I. There are a couple of acrostics used through the years to teach people to pray; one of them is actually the word _____.
 - A. The letter P stands for _____ which is to recognize the _____ of our God and Creator.
 - B. The R stands for _____, acknowledging our sins.
 - C. The A is for Ask meaning we make requests of God.
 - D. The letter Y stands for _____.
- II. This _____ Acrostic is a formula for prayer, to help people create prayers that are _____ and _____.
 - A. I recently ran across an extension of the _____ Acrostic using the word _____, adding the _____ and a second ____.
 - B. The E stands for _____, sharing your emotions and feelings with God.
 - C. The R stands for _____ ending our prayer with thanksgiving and gratitude in God’s presence.
- III. Christian author and speaker, Janet Holm McHenry, writes, “Jesus taught us to praise God in The _____, but there was another occasion when he offered praise. One day his followers returned to him with good news from their travels to tell others about Jesus, and we see his _____-filled response.”
 - A. I love that image of Jesus _____ in the Holy Spirit; what do you see?

*Luke 10:1-23 and Psalm 100

- B. One purpose of praise is to acknowledge the _____ of God.
- C. We also learn from Jesus that praise is a _____ to joy.
- D. Richard Foster, a Quaker author and speaker, tells us that praise is one of two forms of _____ – _____ being the other.

IV. Before concluding this message; we have to face the fact that life is not always _____.

- A. Jesus knew that life wasn't always going to be _____ for his followers.
- B. He _____ them that he was sending them "out like lambs into the midst of wolves."
- C. Perhaps that's why when those Christ followers came back with good news, he praised God with such _____.
- D. Praying with Jesus means being aware of our _____, counting our _____ and _____ God for each one.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, March 24

Pastor Jack began this message with an experience that inspires joy, thanksgiving and praise. He poked a little fun at himself saying he almost missed the majesty of the moment by trying to capture beautiful sunrise with his phone cameral. There is so much beauty in this world and so much to be thankful for that we don't want to miss it for any reason. Our natural response to the joy of such moments, according to one of the authors Pastor Jack read, is praise. Have you ever felt like praising God as certain times when you've experienced a tremendous blessing or exciting news? Meditate on this question and write your reflection here.

Tuesday, March 25

We learned of a couple acrostics created to help us to pray in holistic and helpful ways. Let's look at the longer version of the acrostic PRAYER.

- P – Praise
- R – Repent
- A – Ask
- Y – Yield
- E – Express
- R – Rejoice

Consider this model for prayer and review the meanings of each part in our message notes. Write a brief prayer below with at least one sentence for each part of the prayer.

Now that you've written your prayer, read it in a prayerful attitude. How does your prayer flow? How did it make you feel to pray your own words? Give thanks to our God who hears our every prayer.

Wednesday, March 26

Read Luke 10:1-23. Despite all the instruction and warnings Jesus gave to the 70 disciples who went out in pairs to witness to the communities in the area, this mission was met with great success and Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit. It made Pastor Jack happy to think about Jesus rejoicing so exuberantly. He said he even envisioned Jesus dancing! How about you? How do you view Jesus rejoining in the Holy Spirit? Have you ever been so moved to praise God in such a joyful demonstration of praise and movement? Meditate on that question and write your thoughts here.