11/8/15 Worship Through Praise and Thanksgiving

* Introduction
  + Series=Praise and Thanksgiving
  + Last week =Praise Him in the Storm
    - Learned in order to get out of the storm praise must come first
    - 1. Share our feelings with God, 2. Recall what he has done, 3. Praise for faithfulness of past, 4. Trust in his Future faithfulness
* Continuing this series looking at Worship and examining the Psalms in order to give us insight

Psalm 100

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! 2 Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! 3 Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! 5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

1. Joyful Noise (v.1)
   * Noise here is Hebrew=rua which means "Shout" or "Battle Cry"
   * Doesn't have to be a good noise? HAHA but not really
     + But it does need to be a good noise
     + pleasing to God
   * Joyful- In victory
   * Breaking a sports huddle
   * Joy is Not Happiness
     + Happiness depends on circumstances
     + Like we talked about last week not all circumstances are good
     + Happiness is feeling or emotion
     + Joy comes is different
     + Nehemiah 8:10b And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”
   * Joy comes from abiding in the Holy Spirit
     + Listed as a fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5
   * It is supernatural/Spiritual it comes from God
2. Serve with gladness (v.2)
   * Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,
   * The Lord looks at the heart, the motivations of the heart
   * Do it not out of obligation but out of Love
   * Mr. Sutton "work hard and good no matter what you do"
   * Coaching Middle School Sports
     + Taking time away from my family Because I love those kids
     + It's fun
     + I enjoy it
   * Serving Jesus is worship
     + He said whoever is first shall be last, and whoever is last shall be first
     + The life of a Jesus follower is given in service
3. Singing (v.2)
   * Songs and psalms is what has been laid on my heart
   * Psalm 95:1 Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
   * Ephesians 5: 19-20 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
   * Sing when we are joyful
   * Some of the most joyful people I know are those who sing constantly
   * Source of our singing= Salvation
     + Psalm 96:2 Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
4. Thanksgiving and praise (v.4)  
   * Enter his gates
     + 1st thing when we come to him
     + so many times we lead with what we need and want
   * **Praise and Thanksgiving**Praise is giving glory to God for who he is. Thanksgiving is giving glory to God for what he has done for us. It is the lens through which to view our entire life. –Nicky Gumbel, Vicar of HTB in London
   * Give thanks
     + What he has done
     + Janet Geiger's daughter
     + Cancer 2013, Surgery-chemo-radiation
     + Reoccurred 1 year later, Surgery-chemo again
     + 2015, this year- all check ups indicate she is cancer free
     + Thankful for Jesus' healing touch
     + God gets the glory
   * Bless his name=Praise
   * Praise is Celebration
     + We don't celebrate enough
     + We will always celebrate
   * Have so much to be thankful for that it is worth getting excited about

* What does this look like?
  + John 4: 23-24 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”
  + We've been taught that we are to sit quietly like good boys and girls
  + Excitement
  + Raising Hands= Traditional way to pray
    - Jews and Christians of the Bible
    - Psalm 134:2 Lift up your hands to the holy place

and bless the Lord!

* Why do we Praise and Worship (v. 5)

1. He is good and his purposes are good
   1. Rom. 8:28 and last week
2. Love endures forever
   1. Nothing can separate us
   2. Rom 8:38-39 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord
3. Faithfulness
4. The only way we can give God anything back
5. No way to repay him, but we can give him praise and thanksgiving

**Closing**

* Prayer and song
* Raise your hands if you feel led
* Say Amen during the sermon
* Worship the Lord in spirit and truth however that looks for you!