



HURSTBOURNE
BAPTIST CHURCH
of Louisville

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November 2024

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Vince Scarbrough

Pastor of Member Care

In Psalm 103, the psalmist engages with himself, but not about himself. He engages with himself about God. He encourages himself to bless the Lord. What does it mean to bless the Lord? I think one of the best descriptions of it is to see it as an expression of praising thankfulness. When we bless the Lord, we are recognizing his greatness, the magnitude of his love, the majesty of who he is, and our delight in seeing and experiencing who God is.

There are going to be moments, there are going to be days, when our soul just does not feel like blessing the Lord, blessing his holy name, crying out with praising thankfulness. There are days when there is nothing within me that wants to celebrate, that wants to shout out hallelujah. I would love to have a heart that does it each and every day, but there are a lot of days when I just don't feel as though I have it in me. Sometimes it is because of sin that has reared its ugly head in my life. Sometimes it is due to circumstances that I allow to affect me.

And sometimes, I just can't put my finger on why.

So, what can we do in these moments, what can this psalm teach us - how can it encourage us? In verse 2, the psalm says: **... and forget not ALL his benefits.** And then we read benefit after benefit listed out by the psalmist. Bless the Lord because of this, bless his holy name because of this, praise God because of this and this and this. He sets us on this trajectory of not only realizing all the blessings the psalmist lists, but also remembering the multitude of other blessings (benefits) we have personally experienced and we can list. As I dwell upon those things, my soul is stirred to thankfulness, and that puts me in a place where I am able to worship.

It starts with **Bless the Lord, oh my soul.** But not just in my soul, it continues...**all that is within me bless his holy name!** What is that? What exactly does that mean - all that is within me? Well, first, we are not talking about just a quick "praise the Lord" muttered under our breath. It is not just going through the motions, it is an active engagement of everything that is within me, full focus, full emphasis on the Lord, not on me. It is focused upon who he is, on what he has



done. When I think of blessing the Lord with all that is within me, **Matthew 15:8** comes to mind: ***This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.***

Let me ask you this: have there been moments in your life where you have found yourself fully engaged in worship of God, in worship of your Savior Jesus when you have totally lost the focus on yourself and completely focused on Jesus? Maybe that is easy for you. But for me, on a day-to-day basis, it is very difficult. I worship the Lord, I praise the Lord, but how often is it ever with "all that is within me"? My mind is wandering on this thing, or planning about this other thing, or wondering what that noise was, or whose voice that was, etc.

The psalmist is helpful for me. He helps me to understand what I can do in order to bless the Lord with all that is within me, to put all my heart, all my mind, and all my soul in a position to bless the Lord with all that is within me. It is to focus upon the work of the Lord, both in my life and in the life of others. To take the focus off myself, off those around me, off of the situation or the circumstance and to dwell upon the goodness of God.

A thankful heart is the heart that is capable of worship. A thankful heart is a heart that puts us in a place, a heart position, where we can ***Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!*** Take time today, tomorrow, or next week to make out your own list of blessings from the Lord our God. Be very intentional about this. Let the Holy Spirit guide you as you dwell upon the work of the Lord in your life.

-Pastor Vince

Recent Giving

September 29	October 6	October 13	October 20
Budget \$31,901.42 EACM \$555.00 Eliza Broadus Offering \$100.00 World Hunger \$61.62 Media Ministry \$540.00 Missions Support \$80.00 RENEW	Budget \$27,661.43 Lottie Moon Offering \$250.00 Eliza Broadus Offering \$487.00 World Hunger \$230.00 KBC Disaster Relief \$1,000.00 Media Ministry \$5,000.00 RENEW	Budget \$50,785.98 Eliza Broadus Offering \$150.00 World Hunger \$307.00 RENEW \$2,321.45	Budget \$19,837.92 Eliza Broadus Offering \$243.00 Fred Tucker \$200.00 World Hunger \$50.00 RENEW \$2,983.17
TOTAL: \$45,514.94	TOTAL: \$50,279.57	TOTAL: \$53,564.43	TOTAL: \$23,314.09
Weekly Budget \$37,904.00 Year to Date Budget \$189,519.00 Received to Date \$163,803.00 Difference from Budget (\$25,716.00)	Weekly Budget \$37,904.00 Year to Date Budget \$227,423.00 Received to Date \$191,464.00 Difference from Budget (\$35,959.00)	Weekly Budget \$37,904.00 Year to Date Budget \$265,327.00 Received to Date \$242,250.00 Difference from Budget (\$23,077.00)	Weekly Budget \$37,904.00 Year to Date Budget \$303,231.00 Received to Date \$262,088.00 Difference from Budget (\$41,143.00)



NOVEMBER

Birthdays



November 2
Ela Reid Still
Allison Honeycutt

November 3
Violet Pllum

November 4
Carol James

November 5
Hulse Haley
Bill Thomas

November 6
Bill Shanander
Amanda Dreisbach
Olivia Scarbrough

November 7
Diana Grammer

November 9
Reagan Schatz
Eliza Cook

November 10
Emily Galloway

November 11
Maggie Edgar

November 12
Lana Thomas
Kainan Hupp

November 13
Craig White
Francis Wilson
Liz Clark

November 15
Charlie Wilson
Amos Mooney

November 19
Pat Isaacs
Robert Christy

November 20
Carol Black

November 21
Shelva Barnes

November 22
Sherman Lay

November 23
Jeff Toler
James Mitchell

November 24
Owen Tavelli
Louis Redd

November 25
Leslie Houvenagle

November 26
Hannah Alford
Carol Ann Becknell
Cindy Towles

November 28
Judy Miller
Amanda Guest

November 29
Anna Kolcz Still

November 30
Lynn Milligan
Aspen McDonald
JaeJun Kim



Hurstbourne Baptist Church

8800 Shelbyville Road

Louisville, KY 40222

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT HURSTBOURNE



**NOV 24
5:00PM
HBC GYM**

CHURCH WILL PROVIDE
MEAT, MAC & CHEESE,
DRESSING, AND DRINKS.
PLEASE BRING A SIDE OR
DESSERT TO SHARE!

SIGN-UP AT HURSTBOURNEBC.ORG

RENEW
for all generations



\$1,868,164
GIVEN TO DATE

\$2.5M
TOTAL