

11/28 & 29, 2021

Do You Have a Story? Blessing

Psalm 107:1-3 ¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

² Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

³ those he gathered from the lands,
from east and west, from north and south.

Psalm 107:33-43 ³³ He turned rivers into a desert,
flowing springs into thirsty ground,

³⁴ and fruitful land into a salt waste,
because of the wickedness of those who lived there.

³⁵ He turned the desert into pools of water
and the parched ground into flowing springs;

³⁶ there he brought the hungry to live,
and they founded a city where they could settle.

³⁷ They sowed fields and planted vineyards
that yielded a fruitful harvest;

³⁸ he blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased,
and he did not let their herds diminish

³⁹ Then their numbers decreased, and they were humbled
by oppression, calamity and sorrow;

⁴⁰ he who pours contempt on nobles
made them wander in a trackless waste.

⁴¹ But he lifted the needy out of their affliction
and increased their families like flocks.

⁴² The upright see and rejoice,
but all the wicked shut their mouths.

⁴³ Let the one who is wise heed these things
and ponder the loving deeds of the LORD.

Points:

- You have a story.
- Whether you know it or not, God is in your story.
- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.
- ² Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe.
- “for he is good...”
- Genuine gratitude requires deep trust.
- Trust grows when we notice God at work.
- “His love endures forever.”
- ³³ He turned rivers into a desert,
flowing springs into thirsty ground,

³⁴ and fruitful land into a salt waste,
because of the wickedness of those who lived there.

- This is the blessing of judgement.
- You cannot have justice for one without justice for all.
- Judgement is the first step of making things right.
- ³⁵ He turned the desert into pools of water
and the parched ground into flowing springs;
³⁶ there he brought the hungry to live,
and they founded a city where they could settle.
³⁷ They sowed fields and planted vineyards
that yielded a fruitful harvest;
³⁸ he blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased,
and he did not let their herds diminish.
- This is the blessing of abundance.
- ³⁹ Then their numbers decreased, and they were humbled
by oppression, calamity, and sorrow;
⁴⁰ he who pours contempt on nobles
made them wander in a trackless waste.
- This is the blessing of humility.
- ⁴¹ But he lifted the needy out of their affliction
and increased their families like flocks.
⁴² The upright see and rejoice,
but all the wicked shut their mouths.
- This is the blessing of God holding you while the world falls apart.
- ⁴³ Let the one who is wise heed these things and ponder the loving deeds of the LORD.
- What do God's blessings tell you?

Group Discussion Questions

Starter: In the past month, please share one way God has blessed you.

Go Deeper

1. Read Psalm 107:33-34
2. Why does judgement not feel like a blessing?
3. Imagine a world without judgement. Would you want to live in that world?
Does this insight help you see judgment as a blessing?
4. Read Psalm 107:35-38
5. Imagine you live in an impoverished country. How would these verse speak to you?
6. In your opinion, why would God bless a country like the USA?
7. Read Psalm 107:39-40
8. Please share a time when God humbled you. Was it a blessing?
9. Read Psalm 107:41-42
10. Can you think of someone who is needy or who is upright that God blesses?
11. Read Psalm 107:43.
12. In your opinion, what is the best way for you to ponder the blessings of God?