

Psalm

YOU'RE A GOOD, GOOD FATHER!

What to Give?

Why should I love God?

1. I should love God because He _____ me.

116:1-4

2. I should love God because He's _____ me.

116:5-7

3. I should love God because He _____ me.

116:8-11

Today's Core Belief:

Personal God: "I believe that the infinite and eternal God is involved in and cares about my daily life."
(from Psalm 121:1-2)



Journey with Jesus: John 9-10

November 20, 2016 – Pastor Bruce French

How should I love God?

1. I should love God by _____ on His name. 116:12-13

2. I should love God by _____ my vows. 116:14-16

3. I should love God by _____ back to Him. 116:17-19

Take Home Truth

I will _____ the Lord because he _____
_____ me. Psalm 116:1-2

Today's Action:

Why do you love God? Make a list of a few of the reasons that you do. How do you love God? Make plans to grow in each of the 3 areas discussed today.

Deeper Connection Study

The psalmist is compelled to express his love for the Lord and demonstrate a heart of thanksgiving. Those who love the Lord are encouraged to dwell on his goodness and to praise his name. Indeed, we should be grateful people who recognize that all we have is due to the Lord's lovingkindness.

Today's Core Belief discussed: Personal God.

Read Psalm 116

1. How does the fact that God listens to your prayers encourage you to pray more? How do you feel valued by God?
2. Are you thankful in all situations (cf. 1 Thess. 5:18)? Why or why not?
3. Notice the repetition: "I will call on him" (vv. 2, 13, 17) and "I will fulfill my vows" (vv. 14, 18). How did God's goodness affect the psalmist? Why do you think he mentions vows? How would this impact others?
4. What kind of resolve and dedication resulted from this experience? How do you respond to God's goodness? Do you become more dedicated to him? If so, how?
5. Do we publicly acknowledge God's answers and celebrate the deliverance he brings? How can we stimulate our private and public thanksgiving to the Lord?
6. Why do you love the Lord? What character qualities and/or actions of God prompt you to give him praise? How do you withhold love for the Lord or take things for granted? How aware are you of what God has done, is doing, and will do for you?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for his incredible love! Pray for a heart that demonstrates continual gratitude to the Lord. Ask God to help you give thanks in all circumstances. Pray that you can encourage others to be thankful to God.



Psalm 34, which we studied last week, penned by David, had the invitation "taste and see that Lord is good." David himself had experienced God's goodness and, as a result, he wanted his companions to do the same.

The author of Psalm 116 has a similar motivation. He has personally experienced the "goodness of God," and as a result asks the valid question, "How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?" Once a person has received the Lord's salvation, once they have been rescued from death and spared inevitable calamity, there becomes an expected indebtedness. But how? How can a person pay an infinite debt to the one who has rescued them from the pit?

How about you? Have you experienced the goodness of God like David and the author of this psalm did? Can you give testimony to how he has provided for you, helped you put food on the table and a roof over your head? Are you able to look back and see that God had saved you from calamity by protecting you from a series of bad choices on your part? Is it possible for you to recall the numerous sins you have committed that were paid for by Christ's gracious payment? If you can say yes to any of this then you need to consider what to give back to Him.