

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

PSALMS: The Prayers & Praises of God's People - Psalm 138:1-8 - The Posture of Gratitude - 08.11.2024

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. I shared a story about Christians at a conference complaining about chairs until they were confronted & gained some perspective. Have you ever been in a situation where one person's complaining led to increased complaining from others (maybe even you)? How did you respond at that time (did you get drawn into the complaining, walk away, confront it, etc.)?
If you responded in a sinful way (i.e. complaining) how did you end up getting to a proper perspective in all of that?
If faced with that situation today, would you respond differently than you did at that time? Why or why not?
3. As you read Psalm 138, what specific reasons for thanksgiving does King David mention throughout this Psalm?
In light of these many reasons, what can we learn from him about what we have in Christ for which to be thankful?
What does this Psalm reveal about the relationship between thanksgiving unto the Lord and praising Him unashamedly?
How does a proper understanding of who God is & all that He's done lead us to a place of gratitude (& away from complaints)?
Read James 3:6-12; how does this passage relate to thankfulness in the life of the Christian?
Consider applying this - any time you're tempted to complain about something, choose to give thanks instead?
4. I shared 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 for the benediction:
"[16] Rejoice always, [17] pray without ceasing, [18] give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
How does a passage like this relate to what we see recorded by King David in Psalm 138?
What other passages of Scripture come to mind for you as you read Psalm 138?
As you look to verses 7 & 8 of this Psalm, how does this encourage you in your own walk with the Lord & His work in/for you?
How can you better foster a heart of gratitude to the Lord for all that is yours in Christ Jesus?
Are there any blessings of the Lord in your life that you've taken for granted (or even elevated to a place of idolatry)?
If so, confess that to the Lord and ask Him for a right perspective & a heart of gratitude to Him for His goodness!
5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
No matter what our circumstances may be...
Understanding who God is as revealed in His Word gives hope to all who trust Him!
KNOW & TRUST IN THE LORD!
The Lord always responds to those who come to Him with sincere humility!
HUMBLY SEEK THE LORD!
Thankfulness overflows from the hearts of those who are satisfied in the Lord!
GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD!