

“The Joy of Worship”

Introduction

What is different about being at home versus other places? Do you feel “at home” during times of worship? As followers of Christ, we should feel truly at home in the presence of God. Worship is a lifestyle and should be reverential. Quality and focused time spent with God can change your life. Experience the joy of worship. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and praise!

Today's Lesson Objectives

- **Discover** why the psalmist expressed joy in worship
- **Feel** the joy of worship
- **Proclaim** the living presence of God throughout creation

Scripture

Psalm 84 (KJV)

Devotional Reading:

2 Chronicles 29:25-30

About Today's Lesson...

“The presence of the Lord is here...the presence of the Lord is here...I feel it in the atmosphere...the presence of the Lord is here”! These lyrics to a song sung by Byron Cage should both inspire us and excite us as we move toward the joyous occasion of worship. There is no greater feeling than being in the presence of the Lord. Our strength is renewed in the presence of God. God protects and covers those who long to be in His presence. There is power in the presence of the Lord. And there is joy in worship as we experience God's presence.

Written by the sons of Korah, Psalm 84 is a reflection of the desire to worship in God's house. More specifically, the psalmist seems to metaphorically express the idea of being in God's presence - wherever He is worshiped. With this in mind, Jewish believers were likely required to travel to Jerusalem for certain holidays each year. These journeys or pilgrimages were not easy, but with God's help and with a unified community of worshipers, successful travel to the Temple was more likely. The people's longing and cries to be in the presence of God would be fulfilled.

As we study today's lesson, we soon recognize that being in God's presence is very special. We also recognize that worshipping together in God's house is an experience like no other. In God's house, we can leave the pressures and problems of life outside and just focus on true worship and praise of God. An old proverb says, “home is where the heart is”. And when our hearts meet with the presence of God, there is no place like home.

Join Mt. Zion's Virtual Sunday School via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/99731464449?pwd=dUZqWW5MVituL2hTY2NDdU8rVm9Kdz09>

Meeting ID: 997 3146 4449

Passcode: 136910

