

Why Proclaim God's Good News?



"Sing to the Lord; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.." Psalm 96:2 NLT

- On a scale of 1 to 10 (1= none & 10= driven) how would you rate your passion to start spiritual conversations and share the Gospel?

Psalm 96 is a song of worship that was sung by Israel in their temple. The author is uncertain but some scholars think it is possibly David because it is closely similar to David's song of praise in 1 Chronicles 16:23-36.

The *Life Application Study Bible* explains, "The Psalmist sings out his praises to God, overwhelmed by all that God has done. As we reflect on God's majesty and his goodness to us, we cannot help telling others about him. Witnessing comes naturally when our hearts are full of appreciation for what he has done. God has chosen to use us to 'publish his glorious deeds among the nations.' Praise for our great God overflows from his creation and should overflow from our lips. How well are you doing at telling others about God's greatness?" (96:1-4).

Central Lesson:

Love and appreciation for God compel us to tell others His Good News.

1. Because of **WHO** God is and what He has **DONE** for us. (96:1-3)

"¹ Sing a new song to the Lord! Let the whole earth sing to the Lord! ² Sing to the Lord; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves. ³ Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does."

Warren Wiersbe wrote, "In the Greek translation of the Old Testament, 'proclaim' is the word used in the New Testament for 'preaching the good news' and gives us the English word 'evangelize.' The good news of the victory of Jesus Christ gives us something to sing about, for he is the only Savior and will save all who trust him...." (96:2).

We must proclaim God's Good News because people need to know who God is and what He has done for us in sending His Son to be our Savior.

2. Because life is **EMPTY** without God. (96:4-6).

"⁴ Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise! He is to be feared above all gods. ⁵ The gods of other nations are mere idols, but the Lord made the heavens! ⁶ Honor and majesty surround him; strength and beauty fill his sanctuary."

Warren Wiersbe explained, "The gods of the nations were 'no gods,' for the word translated 'idols' in verse 5 means 'things that are nothing, things that are weak and worthless.' Both in his sanctuary in heaven and the sanctuary on earth, God was enthroned in glory and power. How we ought to praise him!" (96:4-6).

Just as the ancient nations (and some modern people groups) worshipped idols and false gods (gods who do not exist, unless it is demonic spirits) people today too often live for what is not real or does not matter in the picture of eternity.

We must proclaim God's Good News because it the only way people will be saved and find a life worth living.

3. Because God **DESERVES** recognition and worship. (96:7-9).

"⁷ O nations of the world, recognize the Lord; recognize that the Lord is glorious and strong. ⁸ Give to the Lord the glory he deserves! Bring your offering and come into his courts. ⁹ Worship the Lord in all his holy splendor. Let all the earth tremble before him."

We must proclaim God's Good News because God deserves to be recognized and worshipped.

4. Because Jesus reigns over the universe and is **COMING** again to fix this broken world. (96:10-13).

"¹⁰ Tell all the nations, 'The Lord reigns!' The world stands firm and cannot be shaken. He will judge all peoples fairly. ¹¹ Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise! ¹² Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy! Let the trees of the forest sing for joy ¹³ before the Lord, for he is coming! He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with his truth."

Warren Wiersbe added, "'The Lord reigns' (v. 10; see 93:1) can also be translated 'The Lord has become king' (see Rev. 11:17), referring to the day Jesus will sit on David's throne and rule over the nations (Luke 1:26-33; Rev. 19:11-16). Only then will there be true justice on the earth (Isa 9:6-7; 32:1, 16; 42:1-4). Today, creation is in bondage to corruption and futility because of Adam's sin, but when the children of God are fully redeemed at Christ's return, creation also will be set free (Rom. 8:18-23). No wonder the psalmist described the joy of heaven and earth, the seas and the dry land, and even the trees of the earth, as they welcome their Creator, and then there will be justice on the earth." (96:10-13).

We must proclaim God's Good News because Jesus may return soon.

How to Turn Everyday Conversations Into Gospel Conversations

1. **Starting Conversations** - secular life, religious background, etc.
2. **Sharing the Gospel** - The Three Circles; Do versus Done
3. **Stepping Across the Line of Faith** - Does this make sense? Is there any reason you would not want to accept Christ?
4. **Spiritual Growth Next Steps** - Bible, Prayer, Small Group

Central Lesson:

Love and appreciation for God compel us to tell others His Good News.

Is your heart stirred with gratitude to God for saving you and blessing your life? Are you compelled to start spiritual conversations and share God's good news with others?

- ▶ Accept Christ as your Savior. ▶ As a Christian, dedicate your life to Christ.
- ▶ Invite someone to next Sunday's study. ▶ Attend a small group. ▶ Read the Bible this week & journal meaningful verses. ▶ Pray for friends that need Jesus.