

## Living Out Loud – part 2

### Opening text: Psalms 66:1-5, 8, 12, 16-20

Last week, I shared about ‘upping the volume’ in your spiritual life. The enemy would love to put a lid on your prayers and the expression of your worship. The enemy would love to tone down your passion and bring containment to your relationship with God.

The point of these 2 messages is to encourage all of us to break out of any ‘containment’ and live a life of bold prayers and passionate worship to God.

We’ll look today at Psalm 66. In it we find such great expressions of God’s power, His acts and His goodness toward us.

**V. 5** - *Come and see the works of God; He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men. (TPT – ‘He works amazing miracles for His people’)*

**V.12** - *You have caused men to ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water; But You brought us out to rich fulfillment. (KJV – “He brought us to a wealthy place”; TPT - to be ‘saturated with your goodness’)*

**V.16** - *Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul.*

**V19** - *But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.*

He is awesome in what He does, He brings us out to be saturated with His goodness and He hears our prayers. God is a good God!

### The goodness of God deserves a response

Such goodness demands a response. We are never to be like the ungrateful 9 lepers that Jesus healed and didn’t come back to give Him glory. No. We are to be like the one who came back praising Him with a loud voice.

**Romans 2:4** – “do you despised the riches of His goodness...?”

His goodness is not to be despised but acknowledged and praised and announced loud and clear. That is what the leper who came back to Jesus did.

Here’s 3 great ways to respond to the goodness of God:

#### 1. Up the volume of your appreciation

**V. 1** - *Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!*

‘Joyful shout’ is in Hebrew is the word ‘rua’. It is used in several scriptures as a battle cry of victory. It was also translated as ‘sounding an alarm’ in Joel 2:1 (‘sound an

alarm in God's holy mountain'). It indicates the kind of exuberant worship, victorious worship. We find the exact same expression in Psalms 88:1 and 100:1

**Psalms 47:5** - *God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.*

(NIV: *God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets*).

God ascended with a shout. Interestingly, the NT says that He will also descend to us in the same way: with a shout!

**1 Thessalonians 4: 16** - *16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.*

Heaven will be shouting when Jesus comes back!

We need to line up our thinking with the Word. Some of us may have believed that God couldn't possibly accept worship that is loud or perhaps too demonstrative.

David's wife despised him as he danced before the Lord. She was embarrassed and judged it as 'undignified'. David replied, *'I will be even more undignified than this'* (2 Samuel 6:22).

Upping the volume of our appreciation is definitely encouraged by the psalmist in the word of God.

**Psalms 81:1** – *Sing aloud to God our strength*

## **2. Go public with your affection**

### **V.2 - Sing out the honour of His name;**

**TPT:** *Sing your songs tuned into His glory, tell the world how wonderful He is.*

We should not keep God and His goodness a private thing. No. We need to go public with Jesus. We need not hide our relationship with Him.

**Romans 10:18** says of the church: *"Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."*

**V.8** - *Oh, bless our God, you peoples! And make the voice of His praise to be heard,*

So many people need to hear about God and His great love. We should never keep Jesus to ourselves. There were some lepers in the days of Elisha who said these words: ... *"We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent"* - 2 Kings 7:9 We should never be silent about our God.

**V.16** - *Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul.*

Declaring His goodness, singing out about His mighty acts, being open to share with everyone is an appropriate response to God's goodness.

Jesus said, "What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear!" - Matthew 10:27 NLT

### **3. Make His praise glorious**

**V.2** – *Sing out the honour of His name; make His praise glorious.*

- a) V. 1, 2 and 8 say "make, make, make" – '*make a joyful shout to the Lord*', '*make his praise glorious*', '*make the voice of his praise to be heard*'. Miracles is what He does, worship is how we respond.
- b) Glorious praise is appropriate praise.

The word 'glorious' in Hebrew is *Kabowd* – which means weighty, substantial or great. Make your praise glorious –let there be weight in your worship, excel in your praise. Give Him your best, most excellent expressions of affection. Let us do a good job at praising God.

'Glorious praise' has nothing to do with worship styles but it is all about the sound that comes from your own heart.

### **Conclusion**

We serve a God who, like the Passion Translation says, *saturates us with His goodness*. How could we stay silent about that? How could we not shout it from the rooftops? How could we not praise Him like He deserves to be praised? How could we keep it to ourselves and not share it with the world? Let us make His praise glorious!