

Sermon Title: Come!

Sermon Series: The Psalms of David: In Pursuit of God's Heart

Sermon Text: Psalm 96

Sermon-Based Discussion

INTRODUCTION

Missions is usually not something that we would normally associate with worship. Missions has a sense of hardship, suffering, laboring, difficulty, loneliness and frustration while worship has a sense of easy, exuberance, joy, satisfaction, and community. But in Psalm 96 David is calling us to come and discover that missions and worship are one and the same and that the reason for worship is the message of missions.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Recall a time when you experienced something fantastic. What was your reaction? Why did you do that?

READ PSALM 96

2. Psalm 96 was written to celebrate the occasion David had been waiting and longing for – the delivery of the Ark of the Covenant to its home in Jerusalem, the City of David, because it meant God's presence would be there with him. What is David's desire in response to this occasion? Knowing Israel's history with its neighboring nations, what would motivate David to have this response?
3. What is the difference between "nations" and "peoples"? What implications does that have for us today?
4. What is the message we are to bring to the peoples of the world? Why is this such a difficult message to bring? What attitude should we have that would make our message easier to accept?
5. Why is the fact that God judges equitably a thing worth worshipping Him over? What does this tell us about how God feels about people?

GOING DEEPER

Have you experienced the power and joy of God's salvation in a way you can share about it? If not, what seems to be holding you back? How comfortable are you about going to a group of people with a different language and culture from yours? What challenges do you think you would face?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

If you are not a Christian, is there something about the message that all other gods – religions, philosophies, ideas and things that guide your life – are worthless nothings that disturbs you? Have you considered asking a Christian how this could be true? If you are a Christian, what will you do to bring the Gospel to an unreached people group? Learn about and pray for them at: joshuaproject.net

CHANGING YOUR MIND

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Rom 10:14, 15)