

Please turn to Psalm 107:1-9.

Hesed (God’s faithful loving-kindness) appears 6 times in Psalm 107.

It has a wonderful structure.

Format of Psalm 107

- Vv 1–3, call to worship;
 - vv 4–9, wanderers in the desert;
 - vv 10–16, those in darkness and prison;
 - vv 17–22, the foolish;
 - vv 23–32, those in a storm at sea;

 - vv 33–42, Declarations about the truths of God:
 - the Lord grants water and fruitfulness; the weak are delivered and the mighty humbled;
- v 43, appeal to wisdom.

We will be looking at how *God’s faithful loving-kindness unites believers.*

1. God’s faithful loving kindness should be declared by the people of God.

Psalm 107:1-3 (ESV)

***Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!***

107:2 (ESV)

***Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble***

107:3 (ESV)

***and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.***

Intrinsically woven into the fabric of this Psalm is a concept that, I believe, is very important in our discussion of God’s faithful Loving-kindness and how it unifies our congregation.

Psalm 107:21 (ESV)

***Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of men!***

Psalm 107:22 (ESV)

***And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,
and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!***

The Hebrew word translated “Sacrifices of thanksgiving,” is a Hebrew word *Todah*’.

It occurs 32 times in the OT.

It’s translated (in the ESV translation)...

- 2 as praise
- 1 confess
- 9 as thanks
- 20 as thanksgiving

When translated thanks or thanksgiving, it is almost always accompanied by the word offering.

Two examples are...

2 Ch 29:31, Then Hezekiah said, “You have now consecrated yourselves to the Lord. Come near; bring sacrifices and thank offerings to the house of the Lord.” And the assembly brought sacrifices and thank offerings, and all who were of a willing heart brought burnt offerings.

Ps 56:12. I will fulfill my vows to you, O God, and will offer a sacrifice of thanks for your help (NLT).

Both of these verses describe well the intrinsic meaning of the Hebrew word *Todah*’.

This term sacrifice of praise carries with it two characteristics.

- **Thankfully worshipping God by confessing our sin in the presence of the congregation.**
- **Thankfully worshipping God by declaring, praising or confessing the attributes of God.**

Theological wordbook of the Old Testament, Volume 1, page 364-365.

Study questions:

- A. Why do you think it is important to God that confession and repentance, as well as declaring His attributes, are important to the life of the congregation?**
 - B. Read 1 John 1:5-10 and discuss how the two characteristics of the Hebrew word *Todah*’ are described in the text.**
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2. God’s faithful loving-kindness gathers those who cry out to Him.

Psalm 107:4-7 (ESV)

Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;

107:5 (ESV)

hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.

107:6 (ESV)

**Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.**

107:7 (ESV)

**He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.**

Please notice the progression in these verses.

Lost and alone, without a true home.

Psalm 107:4-5 (ESV)

**Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;**

107:5 (ESV)

**hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.**

Humility is then embraced by the lost and hurting individual.

107:6 (ESV)

**Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.**

God’s mercy rescues the humble and penitent person.

107:7 (ESV)

**He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.**

Study question:

- A. Why do you think embracing humility in the power of the Holy Spirit is so important to God and our life of faith in Christ?**
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3. We should continually remind ourselves of God’s faithful loving-kindness.

Psalm 107:8-9 (ESV)

**Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of men!**

107:9 (ESV)

**For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.**

Study questions:

- A. How do these two verses share the same idea as Matthew 6:33?**
- B. Discuss the “Take Aways” and why they are important to each person individually as well as the congregation as a whole.**

What We Take Away:

- 1. Without God’s faithful loving-kindness revealed in Christ Jesus, we would all be lost!**
- 2. God’s faithful loving-kindness leads us and guides us throughout our earthly lives!**
- 3. God’s faithful loving-kindness calls us to, and unites us with the congregation He has chosen for us!**

Psalm 107:43 (ESV)

**Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things;
let them consider the steadfast love of the Lord.**