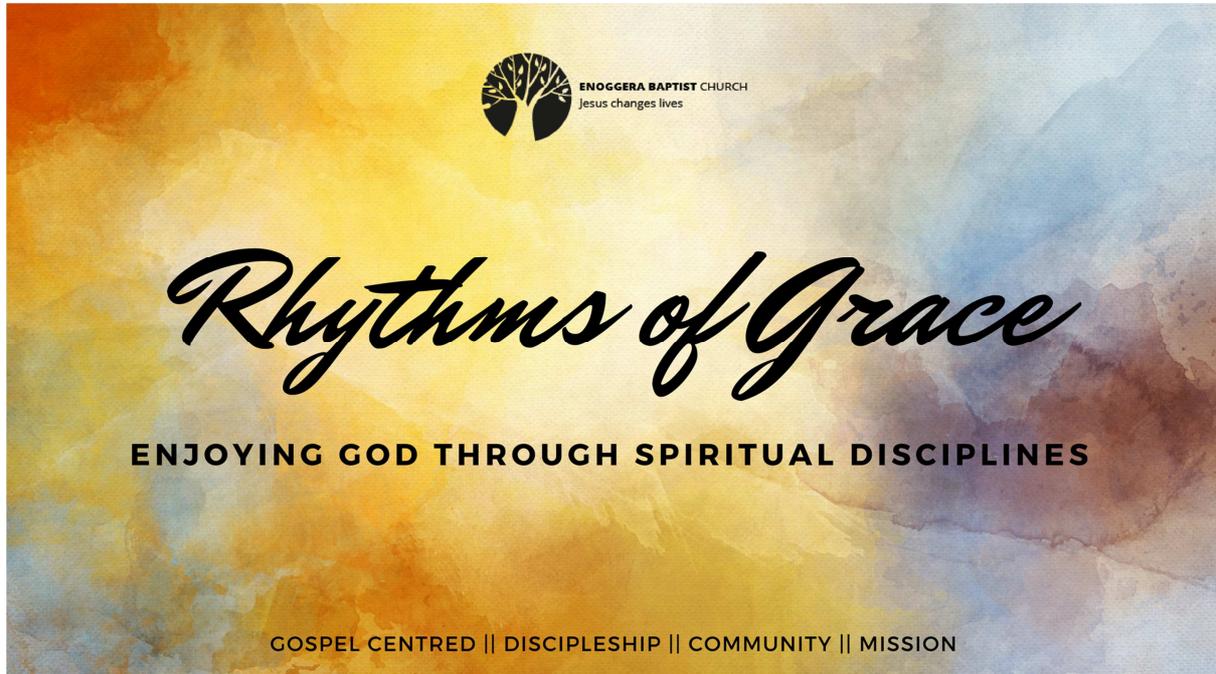




ENOGERA BAPTIST CHURCH
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RHYTHMS OF GRACE



Rhythms of Grace #5 – Singing

Colossians 3:16: *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, **singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs**, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

NOTE FOR LEADERS

This document is intended to be used as a discussion *guide*, rather than a curriculum. As small group leaders, please feel free to lead through the topic as most appropriate for your group.

HOUSEKEEPING

Things going at the moment:

- **Grow Women's Conference**
 - Meet Jesus through Habakkuk
 - 4th August 2018
 - Register online
- **She Speaks His Word: Life Centre Church's Women's Breakfast**
 - Elise Maloney is speaking!
 - Register through Facebook event online



RHYTHMS OF GRACE #5 – SINGING

REFLECT

This is a time to generate some discussion by reflecting on the ideas in this week's message. Some ideas include:

- Ask the group to debrief for those who have missed the sermons on Sunday
- What stood out? Do you have any questions?
- Were there any special moments of clarity where God spoke to you clearly?

DIG INTO THE WORD

Let's dig a little deeper. Use the biblical text to discover what God reveals to us in his Word.

Colossians 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, **singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs**, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

Zephaniah 3:17

*The Lord your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with **loud singing**.*

Psalm 96:1-4

¹*Oh **sing** to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!*
²***Sing** to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.*
³***Declare** his glory among the nations,
his marvellous works among all the peoples!*
⁴*For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised*

Revelation 15:3-4

³*And **they sing** the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,
"Great and amazing are your deeds,
O Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,
O King of the nations!"*
⁴*Who will not fear, O Lord,
and glorify your name?*



For you alone are holy.

*All nations will come and worship you,
for your righteous acts have been revealed.”*

1 Chronicles 16:23-34

- ²³ **Sing** to the Lord, all the earth;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
- ²⁴ **Declare** his glory among the nations,
his marvellous deeds among all peoples.
- ²⁵ For great is the Lord and most worthy of **praise**;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- ²⁶ For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
- ²⁷ Splendour and majesty are before him;
strength and joy are in his dwelling place.
- ²⁸ Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- ²⁹ Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come before him.
- Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness.
- ³⁰ Tremble before him, all the earth!
The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.
- ³¹ Let the heavens **rejoice**, let the earth **be glad**;
let them **say** among the nations, “The Lord reigns!”
- ³² Let the sea **resound**, and all that is in it;
let the fields **be jubilant**, and everything in them!
- ³³ Let the trees of the forest **sing**,
let them **sing for joy** before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.
- ³⁴ **Give thanks** to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

Ephesians 5:18b-20 ...be filled with the Spirit,¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

APPLY

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scriptures apply directly to their lives. Get group members to talk about the real life implications of the study.

1. **DISCUSS:** How are we to apply these things? Are there any immediate implications?



2. **SERIES REFLECTION:** What in the Rhythms of Grace series has stood out to you the most?
3. **THE POWER OF SONG**
 - a. Do you agree that there is almost an otherworldly power to music? When have you experienced the power of song or music in your own life?
4. **THE THREAD OF SONG THROUGH SCRIPTURE**
 - a. God Himself sings, and as his image-bearers he has created us to sing as well. Music was God's idea and a gift he has given us to draw near to him (James 4:8). Read the different texts supplied. What most stood out as you in those passages?
5. **THE PURPOSE OF SONG #1 UPWARD – The Worship of God**
 - a. Worship is much bigger than just singing, but worship is not less than singing. As Christians, we sing because we have great cause to: a great God and a great salvation. Why is sung worship so important? What is your experience singing praises to God?
 - b. The bible commands us to sing 50 times and mentions singing 400 times. What response do you have personally to the "command to sing" praise to God?
 - c. What is the link between thankfulness and singing? What are some things that might help you cultivate singing with intentional thankfulness?
6. **THE PURPOSE OF SONG #2 INWARD – Strength for our Souls**
 - a. Singing is a gift God has given to help the "Word of Christ dwell in you richly" as Paul says in Colossians 3:16. Singing deep gospel truths that are soaked in scripture is training our hearts in love, arming our minds for war, and giving strength to our souls for the difficulties of life. How has singing played a role in your spiritual development?
 - b. Can you recall an example of a memorable occasion where you powerfully experienced God's love in song? What was special about it?
7. **THE PURPOSE OF SONG #3 OUTWARD – Encouragement & Proclamation**
 - a. **SONG AS ENCOURAGEMENT:** Singing praises to God is one way we can practically love our brothers and sisters. Have you so considered your singing as loving those around you before?
 - b. **SONG AS MISSIONAL:** How we sing to our God also speaks to the world about our true love. Where we are half-hearted in our praise, the watching world might well conclude our faith is not particularly wonderful or life changing. Consider what your singing (or lack of singing) is communicating to the world about the gospel. Is there something that needs to change?



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PRAY

Thank God for the gift of music and pray for our hearts to be stirred up more by his love to sing his praises all the more.

REFERENCE:

Developed with the help of the following:

- ESV Study Bible, Crossway.