

# SERMON REFLECTIONS

## O House of Aaron (?), Praise the Lord, Trust in the Lord

Psalm 135 & 115 | 2 June 2024 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

### Sermon Reflection Questions

It is clear from the New Testament's use of the Psalms that it is legitimate and desirable for Christians to use them.

The songs in the New Testament are modelled on the Psalms (e.g., Luke chapters 1 and 2). The apostles turned to the Psalms when they were under pressure (e.g. Acts 4) and they often used them when they were preaching (Acts 13). Our Lord Jesus Himself quoted from the Psalms in His public teaching, in answering the Jews, while cleansing the Temple and at the Last Supper.

So how should the Psalms be used today?

It is best if they are read aloud or sung. Some of them explicitly encourage shouting (Psalm 98). Their impact and value will be greatly diminished when read silently. Many Psalms also encourage bodily movement such as lifting hands, clapping, dancing and looking upwards.

**1. With all these in mind, I want to encourage you to read ALOUD Psalm 135 and Psalm 115.**

For DG leaders who are bold to try something new and different, you might want to:

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#### Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

#### Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



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a) SHOUT out Psalms 135 and 115.

b) SING out the two Psalms (you can check the Internet to see whether someone has written songs for these 2 Psalms), or if you know of a Psalm that has been written into a beautiful song, you can lead your group to sing that song.

c) As you read or shout or sing the Psalm(s), accompany it with appropriate BODILY MOVEMENT – lifting of hands, clapping, etc.

**2. Using either Psalm 115 or Psalm 135 as a pattern, write your own psalm (either in whole or in part), using your own experiences/encounters with God.**

For example, using Psalm 135 as a pattern:

Verses 1-2: Praise the Lord for the ministry He has called you to do (whether in church, at home, in the marketplace, or in society).

Verses 3-4: Praise the Lord for the situations/persons leading to your salvation and you being His treasured possession.

Verses 5- 7: Praise the Lord for some of the great things He has done in creation.

Verses 8-18: Praise the Lord for some of the things God has done for/in you:

- Delivering you from slavery to sin
- Delivering you from danger
- Giving you the victory over the difficulties and challenges you face
- Providing for all your needs and blessing you with much

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Verses 19-21:

*All you belonging to Bedok Methodist Church, praise the Lord;  
House of [DG name], praise the Lord;  
House of [your name], praise the Lord;  
Praise be God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Praise the Lord.*

Take time to write out at least a few verses of your own psalm, then read a few verses of your own psalm to one another.

**3. By faith, for the next seven days, read at least one Psalm a day. Pledge yourself to it, and next week, share whether you have done it.**

While there is great value in studying the Psalms, we derive the greatest benefit from them as we use them in our lives.

We discover their true beauty and power when we read them aloud, sing them, and shout them.

[That is one reason why I didn't ask any question today to discuss about what is being taught in the Psalms]

The Psalms are meant to lead us into a passionate praise that glorifies God.

God bless.  
Pastor Aaron Tay

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