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Giving Thanks to the Lord & Seeking His Presence

1. Give thanks to the Lord: in our worship & witness

2. Sing praises to Him: proclaiming His wondrous works

3. Glory in His holy name: with hearts that are rejoicing

4. Seek the Lord & His strength: and seek His presence continually

5. Remember His wondrous works: as the chosen children of our faithful, covenant-keeping God

Excursus: “David’s Song of Thanks” in 1 Chronicles 16

The Use of Psalms in “David’s Song of Thanks” (see 1 Chron. 16:8-36 notes below)

1 Chronicles 16:8-22 = Psalm 105:1-15

1 Chronicles 16:23-33 = Psalm 96:1-13

1 Chronicles 16:34-36 = Psalm 106:1, 47-48

Some Highlights of 1 Chronicles 16 • *ESV Study Bible* (© 2008 by Crossway Bibles)
1 Chron. 16:1–43 The brief account in **2 Sam. 6:17–20** of the ark’s arrival in Jerusalem and the festivities that followed is greatly expanded by details of David’s provisions for worship (**1 Chron. 16:4–7, 37–42**) and a psalm of praise (**vv. 8–36**). Worship before the ark as the primary symbol of God’s presence and power (see **v. 11** and **Num. 10:35**) is the principal theme of this chapter. The implicit message for the Chronicler’s own audience is that such worship, diligently undertaken, will transform and embolden them as they call upon God’s strength...

1 Chron. 16:8–36 This psalm of praise is a composite from **Ps. 105:1–15** (= **1 Chron. 16:8–22**), **Ps. 96:1–13** (= **1 Chron. 16:23–33**), and **Ps. 106:1, 47–48** (= **1 Chron. 16:34–36**) that the Chronicler has carefully woven together and modified slightly at various points for his purposes. It can be seen as expressing the thoughts of praise and gratitude evoked by the successful transfer of the ark to Jerusalem, while also addressing some lively concerns of the Chronicler’s own postexilic community.

1 Chron. 16:8–22 The summons to **seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually** (**v. 11**) is especially appropriate before the ark, and a characteristic thought for the writer (see **22:19a**). Worship for the Chronicler means transformative engagement with God. The repeated instruction to Israel to **remember** God’s miracles in the past, and his promises of the land and protection to **Abraham** and **Israel** (**16:18–22**), would resonate with the small and vulnerable postexilic community, whose hold on the land could seem tenuous and under threat (see **Nehemiah 4; 6**).