

Psalm 95

The Problem of Prayer

Blacktown CRC

30 May 2010



How do we teach prayer?



Now I lay me down to
sleep, I pray thee,
Lord, my soul to
keep.

If I should die before I
wake, I pray thee,
Lord, my soul to
take.

God bless....

The Psalms and Prayer



- Praise
(happy)
- Lament
(sad)

Learning from the Psalms

- The psalms teach us to pray **honestly**
- The psalms teach us to pray **comprehensively**
- The psalms teach us to pray in a **God-centred** way
- The psalms teach us pray **responsively**



Psalm 95

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Psalm 95

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the desert, where your fathers tested and tried me, though they had seen what I did.

Psalm 95

For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways.” So I declared on oath in my anger, “They shall never enter my rest.”



Psalm 95: A Call to Worship!

“Come...”

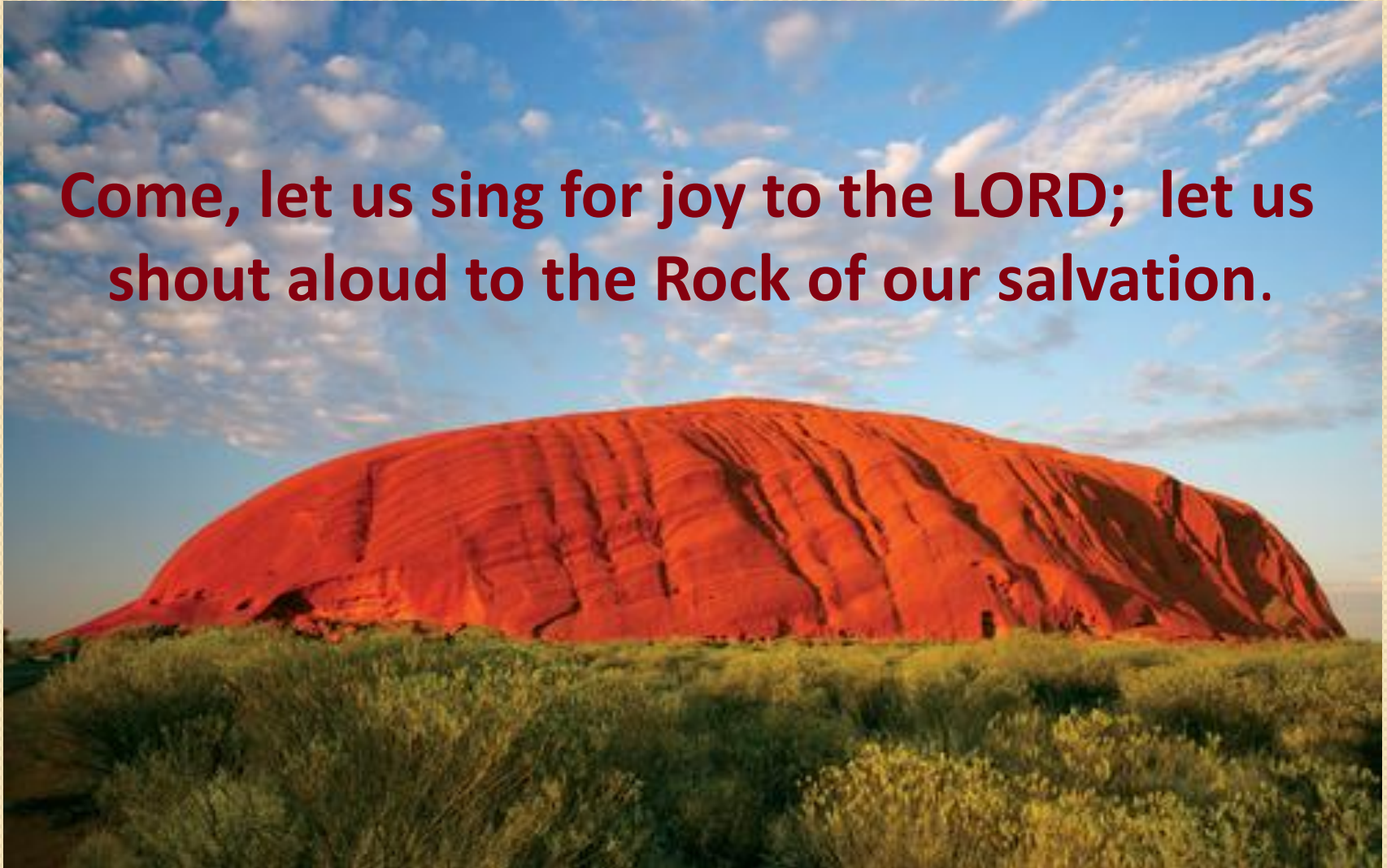
- “Let us sing for joy....” (1)
- “Let us shout aloud” (1)
- “Let us come ...with thanksgiving” (2)
- “Let us bow down in worship....”(6)





Psalm 95

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.



① Adoration

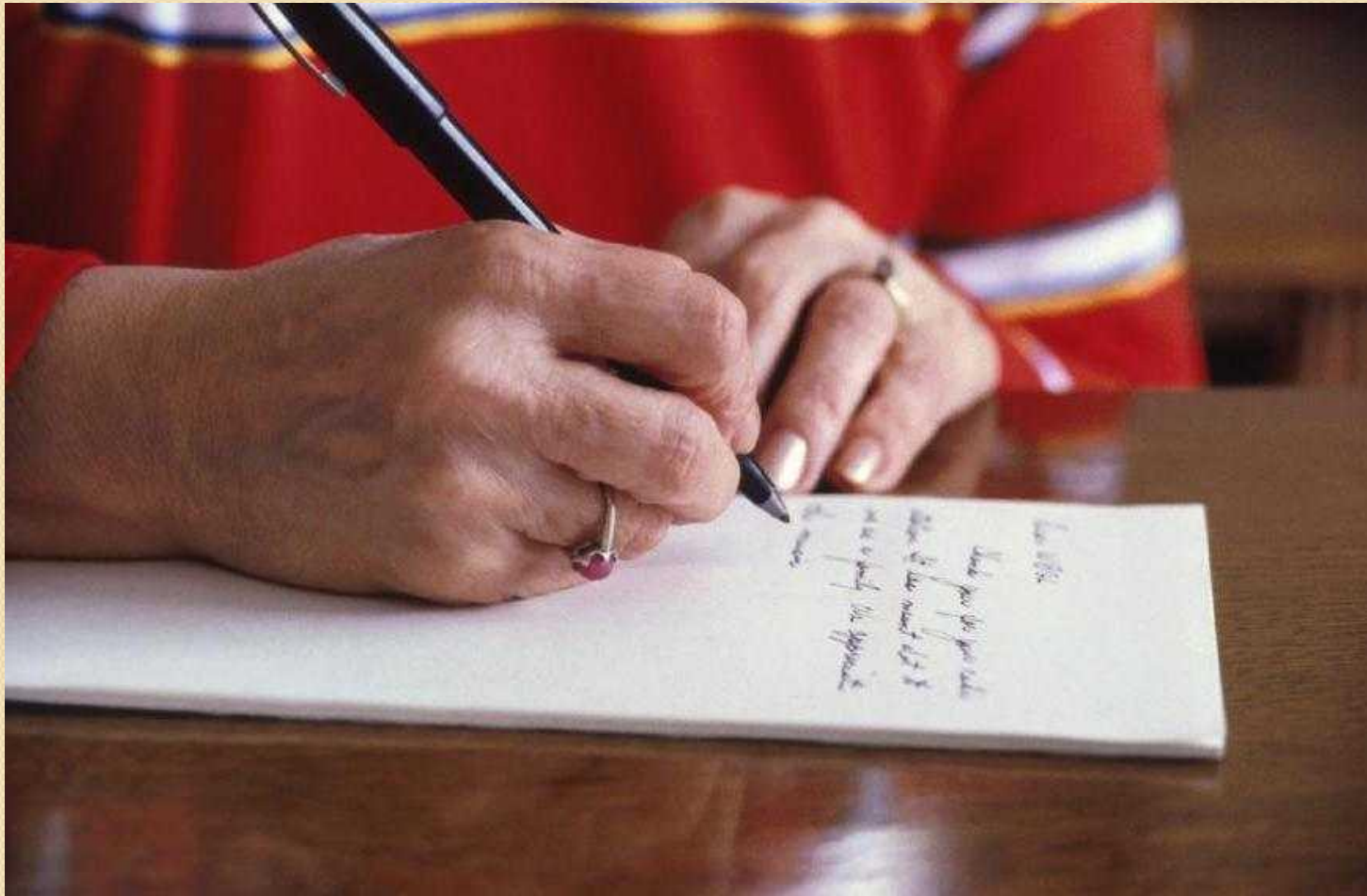
- A good place to begin is adoration.
 - For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. (3-5)
- Praise and adoration focus on who God is.

② Thanksgiving

- Do not forget thanksgiving.
 - Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. (2)
- Thanksgiving focuses on what God has done.
 - “He is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.” (7)

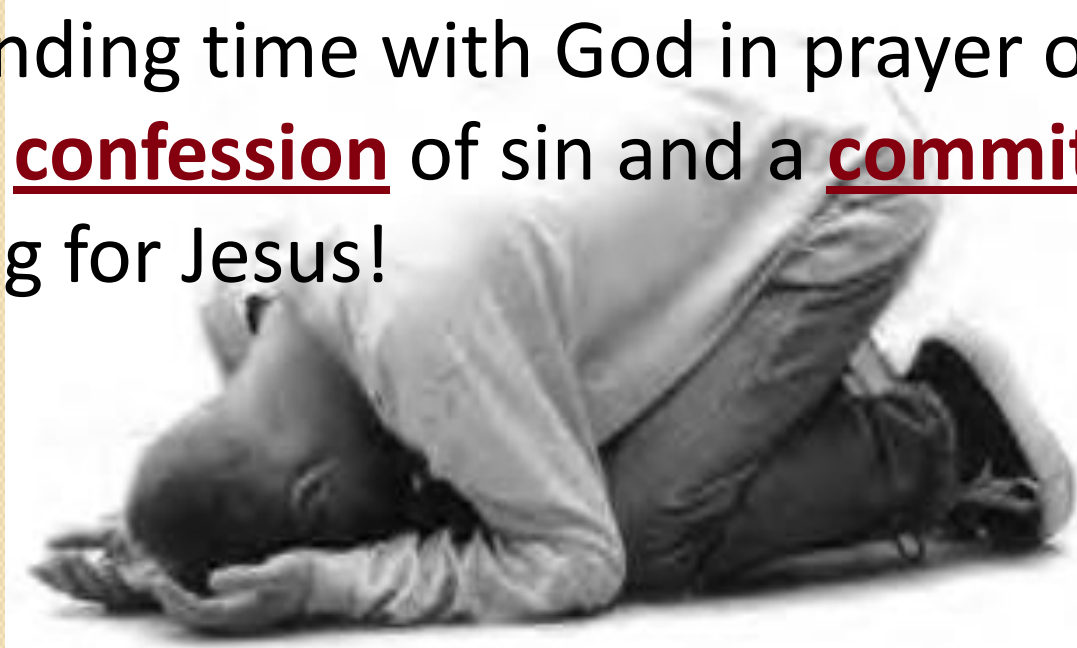


Count Your Blessings



③ Confession

- A good posture of prayer is humility.
 - Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;... Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.... (6-11)
- Spending time with God in prayer ought to lead to a confession of sin and a commitment to living for Jesus!



The Problem of Prayer

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- Adoration
 - Thanksgiving
 - Confession