Thank Jesus when you are lost, hungry and thirsty

Psalm 107:1–7
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I'm convinced more and more that the power in this life begins with Thank You Jesus. When the doctor says cancer, thank you Jesus. When the bills are more than the income, thank you Jesus. When the car breaks down, thank you Jesus. When the roof leaks, thank you Jesus. When your arm is broke, thank you Jesus. When you can't remember why you're standing in the kitchen, thank you Jesus.

When a ten year old kid is sitting at a computer creating an Artificial Intelligence program to make everyone looking at a cell phone into a zombie, thank you Jesus. When a virus wipes out the vast majority of the world's population, thank you Jesus. When a world wide drought causes half the population to die of starvation, thank you Jesus.

The Word of God is filled with one occasion after another of the people praising God in the midst of a crisis. The praise is not for the crisis but for the God who is worthy of all praise.

Psalm 107:1 (NLT) Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.

The Lord is our provider and <u>God is always worthy of praise</u>. Before we say or do anything God is to be respected, treasured, and praised. Before the crisis praise the Lord. Before you rush to the emergency room thank Jesus. Before you hit your thumb thank God. Before you go for a walk praise the Lord. Before you get in the car thank Jesus. Before you start working thank God. Before you talk with your family praise the Lord. Before you meet your neighbor thank Jesus. Before you engage a stranger thank God.

Before you cook your meal praise the Lord. Before you set the table thank Jesus. Before you eat your food thank God. Before you walk into the doctor's office praise the Lord. Before you take your vitamins and pills thank Jesus. Before you complain about your aches and pains thank God. Before you lay down in bed tonight praise the Lord. Before you get out of the bed in the morning thank Jesus. Before you do anything thank God.

The Lord is the one who gives you each new day. Jesus makes the sunrise and the sunset. God does this for sinners and saints alike. The Lord gives you the bed you sleep in. Jesus has provided you with family and friends, God has given you life. The Lord has given you skills, abilities and jobs. Jesus has opened doors and windows for new opportunities.

God has been and continues to be your guiding light. The Lord has protected you. Jesus is your Great Shepherd. God is always protecting you because He is watching over you. The Lord is your salvation. Jesus is your Savior. God is the one true and living God.

The love of God for each person is never ending regardless of how we live. Get out of bed each day doing your own thing and God loves you. Pick a fight with your neighbor, your boss, your dog, your spouse; God still loves you. Ignore the Word of God, the Holy Spirit, the voice of God; He still loves you.

Be oblivious to the needs of people who cross your path each day; God still loves you. Dance, play cards, drink and gamble; God still loves you. Shack up with your partner; God still loves you. Smoke cigars, cigarettes, pot, or vape; God still loves you. Be completely self-absorbed, narcissistic, lost on you own path; God still loves you. Live in the mountains, the valley, the city, by the ocean, on the top floor the building; God still loves you.

Psalm 107:2 (NLT) Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

Are we so busy surviving that we forget to <u>proclaim God's redemption</u>. There is always something to do and it keeps us from giving thanks. In this generation of history there are more things to do than ever before. Tomorrow there may be even more things to do. In this time of automation, artificial intelligence, and robots we still don't have enough time in each day.

Twenty-twenty-six is a year of technological advances like we have never seen before. Very few people one hundred years ago would have ever thought about the things we have today. In nineteen twenty-six not everyone had indoor plumbing. Now we have refrigerators with a WiFi connection. In nineteen twenty-six only a few people had a Ford Model T. Now we have self-driving electric cars.

In nineteen twenty-six the moon was made of cheese. Now we have people living in space and others dreaming of going to Mars. In nineteen twenty-six there was not a cell phone, a computer, a TV, and not everyone had a radio. Today, we've almost forgotten about the radio because of the TV, computer and cell phone. In nineteen twenty-six people went to church three times a week because they had nothing else to do. Now people have so many things to do that they drive by churches and don't even see them.

Then there are the barriers between us and God that might just be in our heads. We're overly concerned about what other people think. We live in a culture that is self-obsessed. People have taken the technology to heights we never imagined just so we can be entertained.

Even though we are able to communicate with people anywhere in the world, sometimes we don't even talk to the people in the same room. Loneliness is more prevalent than we can imagine. Pharmaceutical companies make tons of money from pills for schizophrenia, bipolar, and depression. We don't even want to talk about mass shootings and suicides.

There are more ways to proclaim the good news of Jesus than at any time in history. All the technology and the ease of communication, along with the simple ways of travel have opened the doors for people in any place at any time to talk about Jesus. Yet the number of new converts to faith in Jesus is going down in our own nation. The number of churches that are closing continues to increase. The amount of people who gather to worship Jesus is declining.

God is still on His throne. Jesus is still the Savior of the world and the Lord of life. The Holy Spirit is still calling people to faith and hope.

The problem is a head, a heart, a soul, a spiritual problem. People don't think about Jesus. They don't give Him a thought as they go through their daily activities. Christians aren't engaged with the Word, the Holy Spirit, and the power of God. Believers think and act like all the rest of the people in world.

The heart of believers is easily torn between what the eyes see and what the Spirit says. The souls of believers aren't receiving the spiritual nourishment that is needed. The tongue isn't speaking the glory and praises of God. This is the circle suffering we've created for ourselves.

Psalm 107:3–5 (NLT) For he has gathered the exiles from many lands, from east and west, from north and south. Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless. Hungry and thirsty, they nearly died.

You're no longer lost, God has redeemed you, <u>tell your story with words of thanks</u>. Jesus is bringing you to God even though you were far away. It doesn't matter how far away you have been from God, Jesus is bringing you back. You can be a slave to your self, to the technology, to the bad thoughts in your heard, to the afflictions that attack you and Jesus will bring you back to God. You can be on your death bed afflicted with a disease, a bad habit, or negative thoughts. Jesus will bring you back to the Father. You can be trapped by your past, afraid of the present, and bewildered by the future. Jesus will draw you to the one who gave you life.

As Jesus brings you to faith in Him rejoice and talk about your journey. While you are still aware of the pain in your life, speak out about the hope you are experiencing. Even though you are still in the midst of the struggle proclaim who Jesus is.

You may feel lost but you are not. Jesus has redeemed your soul from sin. You may feel as though you are being tossed around by the waves of life. Jesus has saved your life from the power of sin and evil. You may think that you are about to die. Jesus has delivered you to a life of overcoming, that is victorious with every step.

Your circumstances and your situation don't matter. I know that sounds crazy because we are living in our circumstances and our situation is out of our control. But you have always lived in your circumstances, and your situation has always been out of your control. The devil is still prowling around like lion seeking to devour you. You are not a victim of this life. You are saved, redeemed, and delivered.

You and I can't always see God's deliverance. But we know that it is real. We know that Jesus has given us the hope of eternal. We know that we are at peace with God. We know that we are victorious over the temptations. You and I forget that we have been redeemed. We are no longer slaves to our past. We are no longer held captive to our circumstances. We are no longer bound by our situation. We have the promises of scripture. We are filled with the Holy Spirit. His fruit is growing in our lives.

Dying now or living for years to come we are in the hands of God. You are saved. Never forget that your salvation is secure. Everyone who confesses that Jesus is Lord has been saved. No matter what pain or suffering happens in this lifetime you have been saved. Your day can be the worst day ever, but you are saved. Your life can look miserable, but you are saved. Afflictions, diseases, cancers, broken bones, and even mental health problems will come against you. Jesus has saved you and His Holy Spirit is dwelling within. Regardless of what your ears hear and your eyes see Jesus has saved you and He will be with you forever. The cost of everything can skyrocket, the economy can collapse, the government can fall, but Jesus saved your soul to walk the streets of heaven.

Praise the Lord. Thank you Jesus. Glory to God.

Psalm 107:6–7 (NLT) "Lord, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he rescued them from their distress. He led them straight to safety, to a city where they could live.

Whatever your troubles <u>call out to Jesus with words of thanks</u>. I'm not thankful for my troubles in life. I am thankful for Jesus. My words on my busiest mornings and my slowest mornings are thank you Jesus. My words on my best days and on my worst days are thank you Jesus.

I am not special and my life is no better than yours. I eat, sleep, and repeat day after day. I get stressed, I can be anxious for no good reason, I can be weighted down about things that amount to nothing.

But Jesus loves each one of us. He hears us when we cry out to Him with words of thanks. Read through the scriptures and you will find that people just like you who were giving thanks to Jesus. They were living in their circumstances and their situations and they cried out the Lord with words of thanks. In all of their distresses, in all of their problems, they cried out to the Lord, they proclaimed the greatness of God. As their needs grew they gave thanks for the majesty, the wonder, and the glory of God. They knew that the Lord heard every word. They trusted their lives to the Lord.

Whatever you are facing today cry out to the Lord. No matter what the burden, call out to Jesus. Regardless of how you are feeling – mad, sad, bad, or glad – give thanks to Jesus. Make it the ritual, the custom, the habit of your life to genuinely gives thanks to Jesus. Make the words of this psalm the beginning of your conversations with Jesus. ***Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever. (Psalm 107:1 NLT)*** You can pray it again and again. Eventually you will begin speaking your own words of thanks and gratitude. You will begin to offer to Jesus the burdens of your life. You will discover that God is with you.

My salvation is in the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only way of salvation. Jesus is my hope for today and for tomorrow. Jesus is the strength in my life to overcome temptations and troubles. Jesus is my power to do what I never thought or dreamed possible. Jesus is the only one who to save my soul from my sins and judgment upon my sins.

You can also have Jesus as your Savior, Redeemer and Deliverer. Jesus can come into your life bringing hope and peace. Jesus can take away your sin. He will remove from your future the punishment of sin. He will bring all that you need for every situation and all circumstances.

Call out to Jesus. Praise Him for being the one who died as your sin. Give thanks to Jesus for removing the power of sin in your life. Thank Jesus for rising from the dead to give you a new life, and eternal life in heaven.

Each individual needs to make these decisions for themselves. You can become a new person today. Will you call out to Jesus?