

# Thanksgiving

## Psalm 136

### Into the Lesson:

Spend some time looking at the word "thanks" from around the world (it's from the internet so it must be right):

Arabic-shoukran  
Chinese, Cantonese-do jeh  
Chinese, Mandarin (where those little oranges come from)-  
xie xie  
Danish-tak as well as Icelandic and Norwegian takk (maybe  
related to Klingon)  
Haitian-mesi  
Japanese-arigato  
Romania-multsumesc  
Spanish-gracias  
Welsh-diolch yn fawr  
Zulu-ngiyabonga

### Into the Word:

Take some time to reread Psalm 136 highlight the times "thanks" (Yadah according to Sam's message) is used in this passage.

In his sermon, Sam outlined (wish he could teach his Dad how to do that) the reminders for the nation of Israel of God's sovereign hand throughout their history. Spend being reminded of this rich history:

God's sovereignty-vv. 1-3-  
God's creation-vv. 4-9-  
God's role as rescuer-vv. 10-16-  
God their victor-vv. 17-22-  
Now and always- vv. 23-25-

### Into Life:

Now that the dust has somewhat settled, what are some of the "takeaways" from our recent election?

Were you surprised, or a little unsettled by the number of people who voted for some of the amendments?

Does there seem like a bit of a disconnect to have "science-based wildlife management" on the same ballot with amendment 79?

How do some of the election results serve as an indication that some may have adopted a false world view?

Regardless of results, has the Mission of the Church changed? How will that be reflected in our understanding of God's:

Sovereignty-  
Role in creation-  
Role as rescuer and victor-

How do we "remain hopeful" and help others to remain hopeful when it seems like their world is crashing down around them?

Read again Psalm 136 as a prayer thanking God for his "Love that endures forever".

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

- Philippians 4:4-8