



Title | The Big, Messy Middle
Series | SONGS FOR AN ANXIOUS HEART
Text | Psalm 106
By | Bob Kerrey
Date | November 25, 2018

Sermon Notes

Psalm 106:1 Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! **2** Who can utter the mighty deeds of the LORD, or declare all his praise? **3** Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!
4 Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people; help me when you save them,
5 that I may look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory with your inheritance. . . . [the big, messy middle] . . . **47** Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise. **48** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD! *ESV*

Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

Psalm 106:1

Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

ESV

For Reflection & Application:

Monday:

Read Psalm 106. The middle of the psalm (verses 6-46) is filled with references to the rebellion of the Israelites. But what are the themes in the beginning (verses 1-5) and the end (verses 47-48)? Why do you think the psalm is arranged this way?

Tuesday:

Reread Psalm 121:6-46. In what specific ways might you share the tendencies of the Israelites? Did God give up on them?

Wednesday:

The first three words of Psalm 106 are exactly the same as the last three words: "Praise the Lord!" How do you reconcile this with all the bad things that are recounted in the psalm?

Thursday:

Investigate more fully some of the historical references in Psalm 106 to see what you can learn. (Psa 106:6-12 refers to Exo 14:5-31; Psa 106:13-15 refers to Num 11:4-33; Psa 106:16-18 refers to Num 16:1-40; Psa 106:19-23 refers to Exo 32:1-24; Psa 106:24-27 refers to Num 14:1-38; Psa 106:28-31 refers to Num 25:1-18; Psa 106:32-33 refers to Num 20:2-13; Psa 106:34-42 refers to Judg 1:27-2:15; Psa 106:43-46 refers to Judg 2:16-21:25.)

Friday:

If the big, messy middle of our lives is surrounded by the salvation and love of the Lord, what difference does this make to you? How does this relate to anxiety?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, if I were to recount all the ways I have turned my back on you and made poor choices, it would indeed be a spiritual dumpster fire. But I praise you, Lord, that the big, messy middle of my life is surrounded by your salvation and love. Amen.