

## WHY WE SING

### Psalm 95

<sup>1</sup>*Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.*

<sup>2</sup>*Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.*

<sup>3</sup>*For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.*

<sup>4</sup>*In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.*

<sup>5</sup>*The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.*

<sup>6</sup>*Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;*

<sup>7</sup>*for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.*

*Today, if only you would hear his voice,*

<sup>8</sup>*“Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,*

<sup>9</sup>*where your ancestors tested me; they tried me, though they had seen what I did.*

<sup>10</sup>*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.’*

<sup>11</sup>*So I declared on oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’”* (Psalm 95:1–11)

#### INTRODUCTION:

This Psalm can be seen as a response to God for:

- Who He is
- What He has done
- What He wants His people to do

In the sermon based on this Psalm, we find that this Psalm also provides us a basis for *why we sing* in church as part of our worship of God. We sing to:

1. Rejoice in Him
2. Remind one another of who He is
3. Revere His presence
4. Remember our own journey with Him
5. Return to Him in ways we have strayed

#### DISCUSS:

1. What does Psalm 95 exhort the people of God to do? (vv1, 2, 6)

2. What reasons does the Psalm give for exhorting the people to these actions listed in Q1? The reasons can be categorised according to
- i) Who God is
  - ii) What He has done

3. Why do you think the Psalm ends by reminding the people of how their ancestors disobeyed God in the desert in verses 8-11? (See also Exodus 17:1-7)

4. In times when we struggle to worship God with singing, how can this Psalm encourage us?

**PRAY:**

Share with one another some hinderances that might be preventing you from singing wholeheartedly to God in worship. Pray that the Lord will help you to step out in faith and sing to Him.