

State of the Church 2026

Our Great God!

Psalm 145:1-7, 17-21 ESV

Week 2 – Great Witness Pt 1 - Psalm 145:4-5 (February 8)

Call to Worship

Read (Stand as we Read)

Psalm 145:4-5 ESV

- 4 One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
- 5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

Prayer

Gratitude

Thank you for being merciful to us, teaching us to worship you appropriately, and helping us worship you as the Great God who does great things! We will sing your praises together today and our desire is that you enjoy our worship.

Petition

Father, help us to worship you according to your greatness. Forgive us for when we worship you in poor ways or selfishly. We lay everything at your feet that would distract us or draw our attention away from you. You are our focus and we give you our full attention. Teach us to draw future generations into worshipping you through singing and through stories of your greatness and mighty works. Teach us to worship so that we can teach the next generation to worship you.

Sermon

Psalm 145:4-5 ESV

Series Graphic **SLIDE 1**

Opening Idea

“When your children ask, ‘what do you mean by this service?’ you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the Lord's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” (Exodus 12:26-27)

This question is recorded in Exodus 12 in preparation for the final plague before the Israelites leave Egypt. God has given them specific instructions to prepare themselves for the passing over of the Death Angel. They were to sacrifice a lamb, paint the outer door frame with the lamb's blood, then prepare a meal that contained no yeast (leavening agent). This meal would be eaten to worship God for His kindness in causing the Death Angel to pass over their homes while visiting the Egyptians. God would institute this meal as a yearly memorial. Along with the purity instructions, food, and posture, God commanded them to tell and retell the Exodus story to the next generations and explain the meaning of the meal. This meal continues to this day in Jewish cultures and the transference of God's work continues along with this meal.

Personal celebration and generational teaching of God's personhood and great works is a vital aspect of our faith and worship of God.

Read

Psalm 145:4-5 ESV SLIDE 2

- 4 One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
- 5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

Series Graphic SLIDE 3

Notes on Psalm 145:4-5

Tell Another Generation (v. 4)

The concept of passing along knowledge and experience is a vital aspect of Judeo philosophy and practice. The command to "Tell your children" is a vital connection to the glory of God and His glorious work. It is more than just story telling in that it also includes a shared action of praise and worship. This tradition of generational teaching is both taught and caught by those involved who are impacted by the action as well as being trained to teach future generations. God's works are accomplished for those living in that moment, but also for future generations to come.

David declares that each generation is committing to tell the next generations of the greatness of God and the great things God has done to glorify Himself, impact people in the moment, and instruct generations to come. An observation of the words David uses here shows that these are not just works and deeds that might be singular in focus. The stories of God's works and deeds should include the kind actions like manna, quail, water, clouds, and pillars of fire, but there should also be stories of powerful actions of correction and judgement like the closing of the Red Sea waters, the plagues, the defeat of wicked kings, and the judgement of the disobedient people

not entering into the promised land. God's people are commanded to tell of all the stories of God's great and mighty works and deeds. They are helpful to properly shape the heart and mind of believers by the Holy Spirit.

Think Often About the Greatness of God and His Awesome Works (v. 5)

David continues his hymn/poem declaring his response to the Great God who does great things. There is a unique relationship in these two verses. Authentic transference from one generation to the next, in both formal and informal settings, is dependent upon the understanding of and belief in what is being transferred. The one sharing God's personhood and works to the next generation will do this effectively when they share from what they know and believe. David follows up the declaration to commend to coming generations with his own declaration to meditate on God's greatness and on His great works. This isn't an action done to prepare to share with the next generation, but sharing comes from the overflow of what David knows about God and what He does. Meditation in this verse means, translating from Hebrew, for a person to be occupied and focused on something or someone in an attitude of thanksgiving and gratitude. This occupying action captures a person's thoughts and attention while also influencing their talk. The occupying thought and talk for David is the "glorious splendor of God's majesty" and His "wonderous works". David declares that he will meditate on high and elevated things of God! Meditating this way shapes God's people in profound ways. It shapes perspective, identity, world view, struggles, good times, conversations, relationships, strength, and actions. Here, David is giving the reader the source from where commending and declaring God comes.

God's People Will Tell Their People about Their Great God SLIDE 4

Think about God Often SLIDE 5

His Greatness

His Great Works

Teach the Next Generation About God SLIDE 6

- Children, Siblings,
Relationally (Informal)
Instrumentally (Formal)

SLIDE 7 * Tell the full story of God and His works

*** Grow in meditating to grow in sharing**

Staff Conversation/Testimony of God's Greatness Series Graphic SLIDE 8

Special Offerings SLIDE 9 (Testimony of Congregational Generosity to Empower Missions and Kindness)

VBS - \$4,165.76 (NAMB – Annie Armstrong)

Annie Armstrong - \$11,518.58 (North American Missionaries)

(\$15,684.34 to NAMB)

Lottie Moon - \$61,507.58 (International Missionaries)

(\$77191.92 to Missionaries)

Benevolence - \$5726.51

(\$82,918.43 to Empower Missions and Kindness)

Staff Conversation/Testimony of God's Greatness Series Graphic SLIDE 10