

“We Will Not Hide Them”

Psalm 78:1-11ff

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Nov 19, 2017

1. “Living out loud” should lead to speaking out loud.

Psa. 78:1-3

¹ Give ear...incline your ears to the words of my mouth! ² I will open my mouth...I will utter... ³ things that we have heard...that our fathers have told us... ⁴ ...tell ...⁵ teach

We must be salt & light (Matt 5:13-16). Godly living pleases the Lord and is certainly helpful in evangelizing the lost. However, it all serves to undergird, support, and further emphasize the words we speak in sharing truth with those who don't love Jesus.

Rom. 10:17

⁷ So faith comes from **hearing**, and hearing through the **word** of Christ.

What about you? In what areas of your life are you setting a godly example, but a silent one? Where would God have you speak out loud as you “live out loud” for Him?

2. To not speak of the Lord is to hide Him from others.

Psa. 78:4

⁴ **We will not hide them** from their children, **but tell** to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

Throughout God's Word, not speaking is referred to as “hiding.” **Hiding is never passive.** Don't make the mistake of thinking that not speaking of the Lord is simply passive forgetfulness on our part. **To not speak is to actively hide truth.**

1 Sam. 3:16-18

¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹⁷ And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? **Do not hide it from me.** May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” ¹⁸ **So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him...**

3. You can help us ensure the goodness of God is not hidden from the largest demographic in our growing church: children.

- A. Children’s Ministry is never only about the children you see, or the parents you see, but the children in generations to come that you’ll never see. (Psa. 78:4-6)
- B. Children’s Ministry gives our kids reason to hope in God as they learn to remember His consistent goodness, faithfulness and mercy. (Psa. 78:7)
 - a. For some children, our Children’s Ministry is the only time they hear about the Lord each week.
- C. Children’s Ministry can be used by God to break generational cycles of sin & rebellion. (Psa. 78:8)
- D. Children’s Ministry equips our kids to not “turn back” when facing trouble, and to endure as they remember the goodness of the Lord. (Psa. 78:9ff)

What about you? How will you help us impact the next generation with Gospel truth and the goodness of God? Will you regularly pray for our kids and teachers? Is God calling you to join our Children’s Ministry team to care for and/or teach a class on Sunday mornings?

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Small Group discussion:

- (A) In what ways are you “living out loud” for Jesus in your everyday life?
- (B) Name someone you interact with regularly, but have yet to say something to them about the Lord. What’s holding you back?
- (C) Psa. 78:4 speaks of “the glorious deeds of the Lord” and “the wonders He has done.”
 - a. What “glorious deeds” of the Lord come to mind from the Scriptures?
 - b. What “glorious deeds” has He performed in your life?
 - i. Which do you find easier to share with others—examples from Scripture or examples from your own life?
- (D) We can help you speak of “the glorious deeds of the Lord” to our children. Will you help us reach generations of children with the hope and truth of God’s Word?
- (E) Come up with an “I will…” statement, stating one thing you will do in light of the sermon that was preached.