

**December 28, 2014**

**Steadfast Love**

Psalm 118: 1 – *Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; and his steadfast love endures forever.*

This time of year is always a little crazy. Everyone is flying around by the seat of their pants, trying to get everything done in time. Yes even that one lady who always seems to have everything put together has to rush a little during the tizzy that is Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Years, regardless of what she says or what you may think. Now, I don't think that everybody is miserable or worried that something is going to go wrong or not get done. In fact, some people thrive on "crazy." That lady I mentioned earlier, she is probably one that does thrive on crazy.

Whether you are person that thrives on crazy or you're one that has to have melt down during this time of year or anyone in between, I want you to know something: God still loves you. No matter how crazy your life gets, no matter what kind of fever-pitch-pace you have to keep up with to get everything done, and even if you don't get everything done that you think you need to, God loves you because of what Jesus did for you.

So, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; and his steadfast love for you endures through all of your "crazy." So much so, does God love you, that he has asked me to let you in on a little-known secret (No it wasn't in a dream or anything like that, I'm not that crazy yet). He wants you to calm down, relax and take a

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moment to think about this statement. YOU are the reason for the season. As good Christians, we often jump to the

defense of the Christmas season saying, "Jesus is the reason for the season." We say that because we feel threatened that the world is taking Christmas away from Christians and making it about gifts and Santa Clause and who knows what else. I understand why we say that. But, I want you to think about it for a minute. God showed us his steadfast love by fulfilling his promises to us in sending his Son in human flesh as a baby to live, die and rise for YOU. YOU are the reason Christ came to earth. He lived and died and lives again to show his goodness, mercy and steadfast love in offering you eternal life at his side in heaven. You, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, are the reason for this "crazy" season.

Now, Christmas may be over, but busy lives and schedules don't end when our holidays do. We continue on in this crazy life, going about our days, working with other crazy people and living at a break neck pace trying to get the most out of life and all the blessings God has given to us. But, the next time you feel a little crazy, remember this: You are the reason for Christmas, because God loved you so much that he sent his only Son to give to you his everlasting steadfast love.

God's peace.

*Pastor Carl O. Johnson*

