

# GREAT ARE THE WORKS OF THE LORD

KAREN MONROY

Today is the first Sunday of February and just like that, January is officially over. Looking back, many things have happened. We enter the year with great hope and anticipation but just a few days after the new year, we experienced a surge in covid cases. We need not look very far nor have to watch the news because people from within our own communities and families were afflicted with the new variant. This was followed by an increase in the alert level not only in Metro Manila but other parts of the country, as well. We were once again confronted by the fact that life is unpredictable and full of uncertainties.

This, however, was not the only thing that consumed our January as each one of us also encountered several other things, such as doing our responsibilities at work, attending hours of meetings, adjusting to changing plans and schedules, complying with school requirements, finishing performance tasks and meeting deadlines, not to mention fulfilling our various roles and responsibilities at home. Putting all of these into consideration, we can conclude that the past month was indeed a packed and eventful month.

While this is true, I would like to propose a change in our perspective. Rather than focusing on the many things that

have happened, why don't we focus instead on the many things that God had accomplished - His great works that surrounded us day in and day out. Let's look back and recall the hand of God at work in our lives and be grateful for it.

Psalm 111:1-2 reads: "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them." The psalmist was greatly amazed by the great works of the Lord which caused him to not only be in awe but to wholeheartedly give thanks to the Lord. God's great works surround us daily. We see this through His creation, the birds, trees, mountains and many more. We see this through the people that we interact with, our families, friends, and the community that we are in. We also see this throughout Scripture, as we read, reflect, and experience Him through His word.

Unfortunately, there are times when we become too absorbed with the things before us and our circumstances that we fail to see and acknowledge God's hand at work in our midst. Let us not allow that to happen. Let us ask God to open our eyes and allow us to see His great works that are right before our eyes. Let us ask God to take away the distractions that hinder us from

appreciating His work. Let us ask God to continue to reveal His goodness and presence before us. May we never lose our sense of awe and wonder in God.

That is the reason why it is important for us to be intentional in remembering and reminding ourselves of who God is, what He has done, and what He is still capable of doing. The succeeding verses of Psalm 111 show God's great work and how the psalmist remembered them. It also showed attributes of God - He is full of splendor, His righteousness endures forever (v. 3), He is gracious and merciful (v. 4), He provides and remembers His covenant (v. 5), He is faithful, just, and trustworthy (v.7). He is all that and many more. And just like the psalmist, may you declare, "The Lord has also done great things for you and me." May we find confidence in who God is and what He has done as we move forward to another month.

I challenge you to take time to look back and remember the great works that the Lord has done for you last month and to look forward to the greater things that He will still do in the future. ✱