Bless the Lord!

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Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. Psalm 103:1-5

Bless the Lord!
Can you hear it? The hush all over campus.
Can you believe it? All the available parking spots.
Are you in as much dismay as I? The school year as come to an end.

As I was reflecting on the weekend’s festivities and celebrations, this verse came to mind and I broke out in song. I have so many reasons to bless the Lord!

• For the individuals on our campus such as Bryan Arvelo who have received miraculous healing this year - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For God’s financial provision to this institution of Christian higher education - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For the friendships that were struck between students, university employees and church members through Home Vespers - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For the walls of racial separation and discrimination of all kinds our campus family has worked hard this year to tear down - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For the lives so deeply impacted by the testimonies that were shared as a part of Student Week of Prayer “Bare Feet, Holy Ground” - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For the ten days of prayer which led to individual and corporate spiritual revival within our campus family and local community - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For the students who willingly served as Student Missionaries or participated in hurricane relief efforts, on uQuest or ERC trips - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For God’s comfort to those within our campus family who have lost loved ones - my soul blesses the Lord!
• For the nine students we have record of who chose to be baptized this year - my soul blesses the Lord!

What reasons do you have this first Monday of summer to bless the Lord? Take some time today to reflect on the year before it blurs into the background. What would it look like to circle up as a department or team this week and retell the stories and situations you’ve seen God work in this year and then, to bless the Lord for His unending goodness and faithfulness to us?

Even, or perhaps, especially in this summer reset may we strive to continue to make the Main Thing, the main thing in our individual lives and in the midst of all our corporate campus functions!

-Anna Bennett