



Wednesday, December 2nd, 2020

New Teaching Series: "The Purpose and Power of Praise and Worship"

TWCC Teaching Connection Outline: "What is Praise?"

Ephesians 1:6 (NLT) - "So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son."

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) - "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Hebrews 13:15 (NLT) - "Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name."

WHAT IS PRAISE?

- _____ is celebrating God as our heart's true home. The Scriptures are filled with injunctions and _____ to _____ the Lord.
 - **Read 1 Chronicles 29:20 (NLT); Psalms 106:1 (NLT); Psalms 113:1 (NLT); Psalms 117:1 (NLT); and Psalms 150:6 (NLT)**
 - If we are to _____ these commands and directives from God, we must first learn what _____ is.
 - _____ includes: **(1)** _____ **(2)** _____ Approval or a Favorable Judgement of **(3)** _____, especially by crediting with perfections.
 - **Definitions of Praise:**
 - _____: To _____ someone is: **(1)** To entrust for _____ or _____, or **(2)** To _____ as _____ of confidence or notice.
- Praising God by commendation thus means that we entrust ourselves to His care and recommend that others do the same.**
- **Read Psalms 7:1 (MEV); Psalms 9:10 (MEV); Psalms 16:1 (KJV) and Psalms 20:7 (KJV)**
 - _____ by _____ thus applies the _____ of God to our personal circumstances.
 - Example of a Father who has lost his job. His _____ of God in such a situation might go something like this:
 - _____ Approval or Favorable Judgement Of: To _____ of someone is to have or express a favorable opinion of Him or to show esteem. Personal experience is at the heart of this _____ of praise as well.
 - **Read Psalms 10:14 (MEV); Psalms 59:16 (MEV) and Psalms 63:1 - 2 (MEV)**
 - So, you see, _____ by _____ is turning our thoughts toward God and remembering how He has won our acclaim and adoration. It is _____ the wonder of Who He is and how He has made a difference in our life and the life of others.
 - **Example Psalms 23**

- _____: To _____ someone is to bestow honor, praise, or admiration. In other words, giving glory to someone specifically identifies what is admirable in the person.
 - This example is quite frequent in the Scriptures. God is recognized as being: **(1) GOOD** (**Psalms 34:8**); **(2) FAITHFUL** (**Psalms 33:4**); **(3) RIGHTEOUS** (**Psalms 11:7**); **(4) JUST** (**2 Chronicles 12:6**); and **(5) MERCIFUL and FORGIVING** (**Daniel 9:9**).
 - His law, His character, and His actions are described as being **PERFECT** and **FLAWLESS**: **Read 2 Samuel 22:31 (NIV); Psalms 19:7 (NIV); and Isaiah 25:1 (NIV)**
 - **Example Psalms 103** - This chapter is a good example of Scripture that _____ God. In this Psalm, David lists some of the many praiseworthy benefits of knowing God.
 - Praising God by _____ Him is simply recognizing and testifying to all these admirable qualities of God.
 - Another way we _____ God is to _____ His Names or other designations of Who He is. For example: "The Lord is a warrior" (**Exodus 15:3a**); "...The Lord is Peace..." (**Judges 6:24**); "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer" (**2 Samuel 22:2**); "The Lord is King" (**Psalms 10:16a**); "The Lord is my light and my salvation" (**Psalms 27:1a**); "The Lord is the strength of His people" (**Psalms 28:8a**).

CHARACTERISTICS OF PRAISE:

- **1st CHARACTERISTIC:** _____ **Puts God in First Place!** Praise is always turning our attention from ourselves to God. It is remembering and recounting Who He is and what He has done, instead of wallowing in the mire of self-absorption.
- **2nd CHARACTERISTIC:** Praise _____ **from Our _____ with God.** People who praise God on a constant and regular basis do so because they have found the Lord to be so altogether lovely that they can't stop thinking of Him and talking of Him.
- **3rd CHARACTERISTIC:** **Praise Is a Conscious Choice. Praise is an ACT of your will.** When you offer God true _____, you make a conscious _____ to *commend*, *approve*, and *glorify* Him.
- **4th CHARACTERISTIC:** **Praise Is a Willing _____.** Biblical expressions of praise often include the word will.
 - **Read Exodus 15:2 (NLT); Psalms 7:17 (NLT); Psalms 13:6 (NIV); and Psalms 34:1 (NLT)**
- Although "will" can indicate a future time, it can also speak of a conscious choice. In other words: ***"I am determined to praise God."*** This is what the Scripture call a _____ or offering of praise.
 - **Read Psalm 54:6 (NLT) and Hebrews 13:15 (NLT)**
- Praise becomes a _____ when you offer your praise to God just because He deserves it and asks you to do it.
- Giving God your _____ of praise means that you choose to dwell on Him instead of yourself. Your mouth is filled with all that is good about God in your life instead of everything that is bad about your feeling, environments, or circumstances. **Leviticus 22:29 (NLT)** - ***"When you bring a thanksgiving offering to the LORD, sacrifice it properly so you will be accepted."***
- **5th CHARACTERISTIC:** **Praise is an Expression of _____.** Praise is giving God all that is His due and giving Him room in our life to do all He wants to do.