

Experiencing Wonder

The Power of Praising God

The Palm Sunday Problem

- Giving God an _____ that isn't His (Matt 21:7,10)
- Giving God an _____ that isn't His (Matt 21:8, 9)

Simply _____ for _____!

"It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High." Ps. 92:1

Five benefits of pure praise...

1. Gives me _____

"My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you-- I, whom you have redeemed." Ps. 71:23

"With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD... No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise." Ezra 3:11, 13

2. Expands my _____

"...when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3:2

"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!" Rom. 11:33

3. Strengthens my _____

"Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you... in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods" Ps. 63:3-5

"Paul and Silas... attacked... stripped and beaten... severely flogged... thrown into prison... feet put into stocks. About midnight they were praying and singing hymns to God." Acts 16:22-25

4. Renews my _____

"I heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand... In a loud voice they sang: 'Worthy is the Lamb...' Rev. 5:11

5. Inspires my _____

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD." Ps. 134:2

"I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer." 1Tim. 2:8

"Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker" Ps. 95:6

Daily Meditations

Take a few minutes every day to read Scripture, pray, and answer some thought-provoking questions pertaining to this week's topic.

This week's memory verses: *"Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods" Ps. 63:3-5*

Monday

Each day this week you'll have a passage of Scripture to read and an opportunity to praise God. A habit of praising God will make an incredible impact on your life this week!

Read Revelation 19:1-7. What encourages you most in this passage?

Write down the phrases of praise that you see in this passage.

Think of one song you love to sing about God and sing that to Him today as your prayer of praise.

Tuesday

Read Matt. 21:7-10. Think of your life right now. How are you trying to give God your agenda or another identity? How does that affect your relationship with Him?

Read Eph. 3:14-21. List five things in these verses that you can praise God for:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

How can you apply these verses to the area you're tempted to impose your agenda on God?

How does praising God help you surrender your agenda?

Thank God today for His amazing love for you. Thank Him for His grace. Ask Him to help you stay in an attitude of praise throughout the day.

Wednesday

Today focus on praising God simply because He is God! Even if there were no benefits (but there are!) for you, God is still God and He is worthy of praise!

Read Romans 11:33-36. What do you learn about God in these verses?

Use the attributes you read in Romans today to praise God. Choose a song of praise to sing to Him today as you pray.

Thursday

Read Psalm 34:1-5. If you lived out these verses, how would your life be different?

How is it possible to "always have God's praise on your lips"?

List two things to praise God for in these verses:

- 1.
- 2.

Praise God today using the two things you wrote down. Ask Him to remind you each step of the day to have His praise on your lips at all times.

Friday

Read John 19:16-37. What can you find to praise God for in this account of Christ's death for you?

Write down a prayer of praise to God for what the death of Christ accomplished for you:

Sing a song of praise to God today. Pray the prayer you wrote. Ask God to help you make praising Him part of the fabric of your character. Remember the Good Friday services tonight at 7:30.

Saturday

Ask the Lord to help you make praise a habit! In preparation for Easter, read John 19:38- 20:31. Please remember the Easter services in your prayers. Pray that many would attend and have an opportunity to know that power of Christ's resurrection in their own life!