

2017

SCHOOL OF PRAYER

SERIES

In Prayer

with **DICK EASTMAN**

NINE "IN PRAYER" CLUSTER-THEMES
FOR FRUITFUL PRAYING!

LESSON TWO

THE JOY CLUSTER

Delighting in Prayer





THE JOY CLUSTER

Delighting in Prayer

- Rejoicing in Prayer
 - Exalting in Prayer
 - Singing in Prayer
-

Isaiah 56:6-8 (MSG)

And as for the outsiders who now follow me, working for me, loving my name, and wanting to be my servants—All who keep the Sabbath and don't defile it, holding fast to my covenant—I'll bring them to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer...Oh yes, my house of worship will be known as a house of prayer for all people.

Ezra 6:21-22 (MSG)

Then the Israelites who had returned from exile, along with everyone who had removed themselves from the defilements of the nations to join them and seek God, the God of Israel, ate the Passover. With great joy they celebrated the Feast of Unraised Bread for seven days. God had plunged them into a sea of joy; he had changed the mind of the king of Assyria to back them in rebuilding The Temple of God, the God of Israel.

THE **JOY** FACTOR IN SCRIPTURE

JOY DEFINED

A feeling of great happiness; the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires; ecstasy; elation; euphoria; pleasure; content; gratification; triumph.

VOICES OF PRAYER

“The Lord gives his people perpetual joy when they walk in obedience to him.” — Dwight L. Moody

Psalm 68:1, 3 (NIV)

May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him...But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.

John 16:24 (MSG)

This is what I want you to do: Ask the Father for whatever is in keeping with the things I've revealed to you. Ask in my name, according to my will, and he'll most certainly give it to you. Your joy will be a river overflowing its banks!

2 Chronicles 30:26-27 (MSG)

The whole congregation of Judah, the priests and Levites, the congregation that came in from Israel, and the resident aliens from both Israel and Judah, were all in on the joyous celebration.



Jerusalem was bursting with joy—nothing like this had taken place in Jerusalem since Solomon son of David king of Israel had built and dedicated The Temple. The priests and Levites had the last word: they stood and blessed the people. And God listened, listened as the ascending sound of their prayers entered his holy heaven.

Nehemiah 8:10 (NLT)

And Nehemiah continued, “Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don’t be dejected and sad, for the joy of the LORD is your strength!”

Luke 15:7 (MSG)

Count on it—there’s more joy in heaven over one sinner’s rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

NOTES



THE **DELIGHT** FACTOR IN SCRIPTURE

DELIGHT DEFINED

Something that makes one very happy; something that gives one great pleasure or satisfaction; a high degree of gratification; extreme satisfaction; total or complete fulfillment; a high degree of pleasure openly and enthusiastically expressed.

Job 33:26 (MSG)

...you may fall on your knees and pray—to God's delight! You'll see God's smile and celebrate, finding yourself set right with God.

Job 22:26 (MSG)

You'll take delight in God, the Mighty One, and look to him joyfully, boldly. You'll pray to him and he'll listen; he'll help you do what you've promised.

Psalms 119:14 (MSG)

I delight far more in what you tell me about living than in gathering a pile of riches. I ponder every morsel of wisdom from you, I attentively watch how you've done it. I relish everything you've told me of life, I won't forget a word of it.

Proverbs 12:2 (MSG)

A good person basks in the delight of GOD...

Jeremiah 15:16 (MSG)

When your words showed up, I ate them—swallowed them whole. What a feast! What delight I took in being yours, O God, God-of-the-Angel-Armies!

Psalms 37:4-5 (AMPC)

4) Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He will give you the desires *and* secret petitions of your heart.
 5) Commit your way to the Lord [roll and repose each care of your load on Him]; trust (lean on, rely on, and be confident) also in Him and He will bring it to pass.

VOICES OF PRAYER

“Oh! One hour with God infinitely exceeds all the pleasures and delights of this lower world.” — David Brainerd

“Oh, the pure delight of a single hour that before Thy throne I spend, when I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God, I commune as friend with friend.” — Fanny Crosby

NOTES



JOY CLUSTER - INSIGHT ONE

Delighting

The _____ of the Lord and
_____ in His presence and
purposes, which is the true _____
of all enduring _____, is
to _____, engage and
_____ the heart of God through
prayer, worship, Scripture engagement, and participation
in His eternal _____ of lost humanity.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Thoughts

Based on Cluster Insight One, share your thoughts within your prayer cluster regarding what you think it means to delight in prayer.

Prayers

Turn your thoughts regarding Cluster Insight One (or any impression from the Scripture passages shared in this teaching segment) into a prayer of desire to delight in prayer.

THE JOY CLUSTER

Delighting in Prayer

PART 1

Rejoicing in Prayer

Rejoice: to feel joy or great delight; to feel or show that you are very happy about something; to give joy; to gladden.

The prefix re: to do again or anew; to return to an original place or condition (example: refresh).

Luke 10:18-20 (MSG)

Jesus said, “...See what I’ve given you? Safe passage as you walk on snakes and scorpions, and protection from every assault of the Enemy. No one can put a hand on you. All the same, the great triumph is not in your authority over evil, but in God’s authority over you and presence with you. Not what you do for God but what God does for you—that’s the agenda for rejoicing.”

Philippians 4:4 (AMPC)

Rejoice in the Lord always [delight, gladden yourselves in Him]; again I say, Rejoice!



VOICES OF PRAYER

“Man was not originally made to mourn; he was made to rejoice. The Garden of Eden was his place of happy abode, and as long as he continued in obedience to God, nothing grew in that Garden that could cause him sorrow.” —Charles Spurgeon

Revelation 19:6-7 (MSG)

Then I heard the sound of massed choirs, the sound of a mighty cataract, the sound of strong thunder: Hallelujah! The Master reigns, our God, the Sovereign-Strong! Let us celebrate, let us rejoice, let us give him the glory!

Deuteronomy 26:10-11 (MSG)

...Prostrate yourselves in the Presence of God, your God. And rejoice! Celebrate all the good things that God, your God, has given you and your family; you and the Levite and the foreigner who lives with you.

1 Chronicles 16:31 (MSG)

God is serious business, take him seriously; he's put the earth in place and it's not moving. So let Heaven rejoice, let Earth be jubilant, and pass the word among the nations, "God reigns!"

Psalms 16:11 (NKJV)

You will show me the path of life; In Your presence *is* fullness of joy; At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

NOTES

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JOY CLUSTER - INSIGHT TWO

Rejoicing

Rejoicing in Jesus is to _____ and
expressively _____, again and again,
our _____ in God's authority over
us and His _____ working in and
through us as _____ of Heaven
in passing on the _____ of His
_____ to the ends of the
_____.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Thoughts

Based on Cluster Insight Two, share your thoughts within your prayer cluster regarding what you think it means to rejoice in prayer.

Prayers

Turn your thoughts regarding Cluster Insight Two (or any impression from the Scripture passages shared in this teaching segment) into a prayer of desire to rejoice in prayer.

HARVEST INCENSE (*National Focus*)***Revelation 8:3-4 (MSG)***

“Then another Angel, carrying a gold censer, came and stood at the Altar. He was given a great quantity of incense so that he could offer up the prayers of all the holy people of God on the Golden Altar before the Throne. Smoke billowed up from the incense-laced prayers of the holy ones, rose before God from the hand of the Angel.”

NOTES

THE JOY CLUSTER

Delighting in Prayer

PART 2

Exalting in Prayer

Exalt: To raise on high; elevate, lift up, to praise or glorify; extol.

“Lift”—To raise from a lower to a higher position; to bring to a higher level; elevate; exalt.” (**Example:** To lift up one’s voice—“To raise one’s voice as in song or in jubilation.”)

“High”—Extending or reaching upward more than other things of the same kind; located far above another surface; advanced in complexity, development, or elaboration.

Psalms 145:1-3 (AMPC)

1) I will extol You, my God, O King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever [with grateful, affectionate praise]. 2) Every day [with its new reasons] will I bless You [affectionately and gratefully praise you]; yes, I will praise Your name forever and ever. 3) Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; and His greatness is [so vast and deep as to be] unsearchable.

Psalm 34:3 (NLT)

Come, let us tell of the LORD's greatness; let us exalt his name together.

Psalm 111:1-2 (NIV)

Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly. Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Psalm 99:5 (NLT)

Exalt the LORD our God! Bow low before his feet, for he is holy!

2 Samuel 22:47 (NLT)

The LORD lives! Praise to my Rock! May God, the Rock of my salvation, be exalted!

Psalm 57:5 (NLT)

Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens! May your glory shine over all the earth.

Psalm 97:9 (NLT)

For you, O LORD, are supreme over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

Psalm 34:1-3 (NIV)

I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.



JOY CLUSTER - INSIGHT THREE

Exalting

Exalting the Lord is to _____
how vast and _____ is our Savior's
_____, grace and
_____ and through our thoughtful and
affectionate praise _____ and
_____ lift His _____ ever
higher and higher.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Thoughts

Based on Cluster Insight Three, share your thoughts within your prayer cluster regarding what you think it means to exalt in prayer.

Prayers

Turn your thoughts regarding Cluster Insight Three (or any impression from the Scripture passages shared in this teaching segment) into a prayer of desire to exalt in prayer.

NOTES

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THE JOY CLUSTER

Delighting in Prayer

PART 3

Singing in Prayer

Singing Defined: The act of creating in or through music a feeling or sense of song; to utter with musical inflections—especially to interpret in musical tones produced by voice.

VOICES OF PRAYER

“Music is the gift of God to man! It is the only art of heaven given to earth and the only art of earth we take back to heaven. But music like every gift is only given to us in the seed. It is for us to unfold, and cultivate, that its wondrous blossoms may bless our own path and bless all those who meet us upon it.”
—Walter Savage Lander

Psalm 149:1; 3; 5-6 (NKJV)

1) Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, *And* His praise in the assembly of the saints... 3) Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp... 5) Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds. *Let* the high praises of God *be* in their mouth, *And* a two-edged sword in their hand.

Exodus 15:1-3 (MSG)

I'm singing my heart out to God—what a victory! He pitched horse and rider into the sea. God is my strength, God is my song, and, yes! God is my salvation. *This* is the kind of God I have and I'm telling the world! *This* is the God of my father—I'm spreading the news far and wide! God is a fighter, pure God, through and through.

Psalms 13:5-6 (MSG)

I've thrown myself headlong into your arms—I'm celebrating your rescue. I'm singing at the top of my lungs, I'm so full of answered prayers.

VOICES OF PRAYER

“There is a full spectrum of purposes and practices of song in worship. The breadth of style, the endless melodic possibilities, the delicate nuances of choral dynamics, the brilliant luster of instrumental arrangement, the soul-stirring anthems of anointed choirs, the rumbling magnificence of giant organs—all seem clearly to be God-given means for our endless expansion and creativity in worship.” —Jack Hayford

Psalms 9:2 (MSG)

I'm thanking you, God, from a full heart, I'm writing the book on your wonders. I'm whistling, laughing, and jumping for joy; I'm singing your song, High God.

Psalms 68:4 (NIV)

Sing to God, sing in praise of his name, extol him who rides on the clouds; rejoice before him—his name is the LORD.

**2 Samuel 22:47-50 (MSG)**

...Blessing to my Rock, my towering Salvation-God! This God set things right for me...That's why I'm thanking you, God, all over the world. That's why I'm singing songs that rhyme your name.

Acts 16:25-26 (CEV)

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing praises to God, while the other prisoners listened. Suddenly a strong earthquake shook the jail to its foundations. The doors opened, and the chains fell from all the prisoners.

Psalms 105:43-45 (MSG)

Remember this! He led his people out singing for joy; his chosen people marched, singing their hearts out! He made them a gift of the country they entered, helped them seize the wealth of the nations So they could do everything he told them—could follow his instructions to the letter. Hallelujah!

Zephaniah 3:17 (NLT)

For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.

Habakkuk 3:17-19 (MSG)

[Note: all of Habakkuk chapter three is a song.]

Though the cherry trees don't blossom and the strawberries don't ripen, Though the apples are worm-

eaten and the wheat fields stunted...I'm singing joyful praise to God. I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God. Counting on God's Rule to prevail, I take heart and gain strength. I run like a deer. I feel like I'm king of the mountain! (For congregational use, with a full orchestra.)

VOICES OF PRAYER

“Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.”
— Martin Luther

Isaiah 55:12-13 (MSG)

So you'll go out in joy, you'll be led into a whole and complete life. The mountains and hills will lead the parade, bursting with song. All the trees of the forest will join the procession, exuberant with applause. No more thistles, but giant sequoias, no more thornbushes, but stately pines...

Psalms 126:5-6 (KJV)

5) They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. 6) He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing [NIV: “with songs of joy”], bringing his sheaves with him.



JOY CLUSTER - INSIGHT FOUR

Singing

The _____ of song is God's gift of
_____ expression to
_____ in His nature and character and
the _____ of His _____
both _____ and
_____.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Thoughts

Based on Cluster Insight Four, share your thoughts within your prayer cluster regarding what you think it means to sing in prayer.

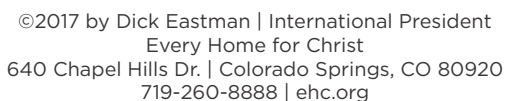
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