

Lesson Six

The Prayer Warrior's Praise Life

Encountering God and Enlisting Heaven

Foundational Scripture:

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...

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)

God be merciful to us and bless us, *And* cause His face to shine upon us, That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

Psalm 67:1-3 (NKJV)

Understanding the Realities of Praise

Reality One:

Praise is _____ the wonders of God's person.

Scripture:

Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious. Say to God, "How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You...." Come and see the works of God; *He is* awesome *in His* doing toward the sons of men.

Psalm 66:1-3, 5 (NKJV)

He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be astounded. They will put their trust in the LORD.

Psalm 40:3 (NLT)

Reality Two:

Praise is _____ the presence of God and being consumed by His beauty.

Scripture:

I'm asking God for one thing, only one thing: To live with him in his house my whole life long. I'll contemplate his beauty; I'll study at his feet.

Psalm 27:4 (MSG)

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

Psalm 73:24-25 (NIV)

Reality Three:

Praise is _____ in the glory of God and enjoying all He has for us.

Scripture:

Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalm 37:3-4 (NIV)

Blessed are the people who know the passwords of praise, who shout on parade in the bright presence of God. Delighted, they dance all day long; they know who you are, what you do—they can't keep it quiet! Your vibrant beauty has gotten inside us—you've been so good to us! We're walking on air!

Psalm 89:15-17 (MSG)

Reality Four:

Praise is _____ the enemies of God by enthroning the presence of God.

Scripture:

But you [God] *are* holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.
Psalm 22:3 (NKJV)

Then Hezekiah prayed to God: "God-of-the-Angel-Armies, enthroned over the cherubim-angels, you are God, the only God there is, God of all kingdoms on earth. You made heaven and earth... But now step in, O God, our God. Save us from him. Let all the kingdoms of earth know that you and you alone are God... Then the Angel of God arrived and struck the Assyrian camp—185,000 Assyrians died. By the time the sun came up, they were all dead—an army of corpses!

Isaiah 37:15-16, 20, 36 (MSG)

AFTERTHOUGHTS... PONDER AND PRAY

Ponder Points:

Ponder what you feel it means to practice the presence of God daily. What do you think it means to cultivate a lifestyle of worship? Journal your thoughts in the space that follows.

Personal Afterthoughts:

Prayer Points:

Take time in praise to define as many aspects of God’s nature and character as you can think of. Declare these qualities about God verbally in actual praise (e.g., “God, I praise you because you are _____, etc.”).

Understanding the Realities of Praise (Continued)

Reality Nine:

Praise is _____ the righteousness and glory of God through expressive worship.

Scripture:

David and all Israel were celebrating before God with all their might, singing and playing all kinds of musical instruments—lyres, harps, tambourines, cymbals, and trumpets.

1 Chronicles 13:8 (NLT)

I have taken a stand, and I will publicly praise the LORD.
Psalm 26:12 (NLT)

And David danced before the LORD with all his might, wearing a priestly tunic. So David and all Israel brought up the Ark of the LORD with much shouting and blowing of trumpets.

2 Samuel 6:14-15 (NLT)

Reality Ten:

Praise is _____ ourselves to a consistency in daily, personal praise.

