

# Praise | Anchored

WEEK FIVE | PASTOR BEN JOHNSTON

Praise isn't a performance - it's about Jesus.

KNOW

## Mary's Worship (John 12:1-8)

- ◇ Mary's worship cost her something of great value (the perfume was worth a year's wages).
- ◇ You will praise the Lord in direct proportion to what you think of Him.

## There is a danger in familiarity.

- ◇ The disciples didn't join in, instead they became spectators.
- ◇ Spectating leads to criticism.
- ◇ When we spectate, we miss the opportunity to praise. (John 4:23)

## Praise Brings Perspective

- ◇ Worship is TO God, for our benefit.
- ◇ It reminds us of who He is, and who we are in relation to him.
- ◇ The tipping point to victory is when you begin to praise.

## Paul & Silas (Acts 16:25-34)

- ◇ Paul and Silas are chained to the foundation of the building.
- ◇ Instead of complaining and worrying, they began to praise.
- ◇ They weren't trying to break out, God broke in!

## God's presence is manifested in praise.

- ◇ Praise is a gateway to the Presence of God
- ◇ (Isaiah 60:18, Psalm 22:3)
- ◇ Judah, means praise (Numbers 2:3)

SCRIPTURES

Revelation 5:8-10

John 12:1-8

Psalms 34:3

Isaiah 61:3

Job 1:21

Psalms 16:8

Psalm 149:7-9

Judges 1:1-2, 20:18

QUOTES

"Your worship is an indicator of how much you think He is worth."

The Bible guides us toward and reveals to us the person of Jesus (the Word who became flesh). As the body of Christ, we are responsible for stewarding the principles, obeying the commands, and proclaiming the truths of God's word to our world.

1. Pastor Ben mentioned that "Praise is not to be impressed or entertained. We gather to solely praise Jesus."
  - a. Discuss: When it comes to praise, do you typically rely on instruments, singers, and style of music before you "get into it"?
  - b. How can you develop a practice of praise that doesn't rely on anything other than the need/desire to praise Jesus?
2. Continuous Praise
  - a. Read together, outloud: Psalm 34:1; Psalm 113:3; Psalm 71:8; Hebrews 13:15
    - i. What theme do these verses have in common?
    - ii. What do you think it means to praise God at all times?
    - iii. How would your life be different if you intentionally praise God throughout your day? Hints from Sunday's sermon:
      - God is self-sufficient, praise is to God but for us.
      - Changes our perspective.
      - Puts into focus what truly matters.
      - Reflect on the words of the hymn, Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.
3. Read the story of Paul and Silas in prison: Acts 16:22-26
  - a. vv 22-24: What was the situation they were in?
    - b. vv 25: What did they decide to do? At what time?
    - c. vv 26: What happened next - How did God respond?

### **GO** Here are 5 ways you can praise God throughout the day:

1. Praise Him by lifting your hands
  - ◇ Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. – Psalm 134:2
2. Praise Him with singing
  - ◇ Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to God: for it is ; pleasant , and praise is beautiful! – Psalm 147:1
  - ◇ Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing. – Psalm 100:2
3. Praise Him with your words
  - ◇ Therefore by Him let us continually offer sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. – Hebrews 13:15
4. Praise Him with dancing and instruments.
  - ◇ Let them praise His name with the dance; let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp. – Psalm 149:3
5. Praise Him in fellowship with other believers
  - ◇ I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You. – Hebrews 2:12

Praise Him in fellowship with other believers

