



Sermon Discussion Guide
06.26.22 Message | Tyler Myers | Nehemiah 8:1-12

Key Scriptures:

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

- Psalm 67:3

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you!

- Psalm 145:10

In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever. Selah

- Psalm 44:8

Set yourselves in array against Babylon all around, all you who bend the bow; shoot at her, spare no arrows, for she has sinned against the Lord.

- Jeremiah 50:14

Message Highlights:

- During this series, “One Roar,” we will study seven Hebrew words for ‘praise’. Each form of praise adds tools to our toolbox to build a life of worship.
- *Yadah* is to revere or worship with extended hands. To hold out the hands. To throw a stone or arrow.
- Meaningful worship comes from engaged worship; we should be cautious of ‘going through the motions’.
- Let the praise tool of *yadah* help you more fully express your concerns and gratitude to God more fully.

Conversation Starter:

Have you ever started a project (whether home improvement, cooking, etc) and quickly realized you didn’t have the right tools? What did you do to remedy the situation? How was your work hindered by the lack of preparation?

Discuss the Message:

1. Read Psalm 148:1-14 aloud. What do you notice about the tone of the psalmist in this passage?
 - a) Aside from worshiping on a Sunday morning, what does the expression of *yadah* or praise look like throughout your week? If you don’t currently practice *yadah*, how might you want to begin incorporating this into your personal life?
 - b) Take note of what aspects of creation seem to move this psalmist to praise.
 - c) What aspects of creation move *you* to praise God?

2. Read the story of Ezra sharing the law with the people in Nehemiah 8:1-12. Where do you see the people demonstrating *yadah* in this passage?
 - a) Why does it matter that we express our praise to God in a way that is outwardly visible?
 - b) How might the aspect of *yadah* meaning “to throw a stone or arrow” be exemplified in Nehemiah 8:10?
3. Each of us are wired and gifted differently, which causes us each to express our worship to God differently. What can we gain from studying the different expressions of praise, even if you aren’t personally wired for that specific type of praise?
 - a) What might cause you to ‘go through the motions’ rather than truly engaging in worship?

Pray:

*Father God, it is our privilege and pleasure to praise you both individually and collectively today. It is a joy to learn about *yadah* and to lift our hands to you, our saving King. Father, we confess that we sometimes go on autopilot rather than truly engaging in our worship of you. As we fill our toolbox with more ways to praise you over the next few weeks, we pray that we would not fill our minds to get puffed up, but rather to simply be nearer to you. As we go about our days this week, may we hide your word in our hearts and lean into the truth that ‘the joy of the Lord is our strength!’*