

## When I Worship

Message 02 of 05 in the series, "Recommended Playlist"

### A. We are commanded to worship God and sing praises to His name.

"Praise the LORD! Praise God in his **sanctuary**; praise him in his mighty **heaven**! Praise him for his **mighty works**; praise his **unequaled greatness**! Praise him with a blast of the ram's horn; praise him with the lyre and harp! Praise him with the tambourine and dancing; praise him with strings and flutes! Praise him with a clash of cymbals; praise him with loud clanging cymbals. Let everything that breathes sing praises to the LORD! Praise the LORD!" Psalm 150:1-6 (NLT)

#### 1. We are to praise God because of His mighty works.

"Let all that I am praise the LORD; with my whole heart, I will praise his holy name. Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things he does for me. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things. My youth is renewed like the eagle's! The LORD gives righteousness and justice to all who are treated unfairly." Psalm 103:1-6 (NLT)

- God is the Creator of everything. (Genesis 1:1, Colossians 1:15-17)
- God forgives all of our sins. (Isaiah 1:18, Psalm 103:8-14, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 1:9)
- God guides us. (Proverbs 3:5-6, 23:1-3, 32:8, 37:23-24, Isaiah 30:21)
- God is our protector. (Psalm 18:1-3, 46:1-3, Psalm 91, 2 Corinthians 1:8-10)
- God is our provider. (Psalm 103:5, Matthew 6:25-34, Philippians 4:19, James 1:17)
- God causes everything to work for our good. (Romans 8:28, James 1:2-4)

**Life Application:** Worship is a powerful antidote to fear and anxiety.

"I will praise the LORD at all times. I will constantly speak his praises. I will boast only in the LORD; let all who are helpless take heart. Come, let us tell of the LORD's greatness; let us exalt his name together. I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears. Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces. In my desperation I prayed, and the LORD listened; he saved me from all my troubles. For the angel of the LORD is a guard; he surrounds and defends all who fear him. Taste and see that the LORD is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!" Psalm 34:1-8 (NLT)

#### 2. We are to praise God because of His unequaled greatness.

"Come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come to him with thanksgiving. Let us sing psalms of praise to him. For the LORD is a great God, a great King above all gods. He holds in his hands the depths of the earth and the mightiest mountains. The sea belongs to him, for he made it. His hands formed the dry land, too. Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our maker..." Psalm 95:1-6 (NLT)

- God is all-powerful. (Job 42:2, Jeremiah 32:27, Luke 1:37, Revelation 19:6)
- God is all-knowing. (Psalm 139:1-3, 147:5, Isaiah 46:9-10)
- God is everywhere. (Proverbs 15:3, 139:5-10, Isaiah 66:1)
- God is eternal. (Psalm 90:1-4, 106:1, Revelation 1:8, 22:13)
- God is unchanging. (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8, James 1:17)

**Life Application:** Authentic worship always involves surrender.

"...dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

#### 3. We are to praise God in His sanctuary.

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?" Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV)

**Note:** Good News! Because the Holy Spirit lives in us, we are God's sanctuary.

“For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: ‘I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people.’” 2 Corinthians 6:16 (NLT)

4. We are to praise God on earth as He is being praised in heaven.

“Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: ‘Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!’” Revelation 5:11-12 (NIV)

5. We are to praise God with everything we’ve got!

“Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth! Worship the LORD with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. Acknowledge that the LORD is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.” Psalm 100:1-3 (NLT)

**Life Application:** Praise is a verb.

“My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.” Psalm 84:2 (NIV)

### **B. Three simple steps to praising God every day:**

1. We can make a list of praiseworthy characteristics of God and speak our praises to Him.
2. We can make a list of Psalms that praise God and meditate on them.
3. We can make a playlist of Christian songs and hymns that help us praise God and sing them.

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### **CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS:**

1. What is your favorite hymn/Christian song? What makes it your favorite?
2. Read Psalm 103:1-6. Share with your group one thing for which you give God praise.
3. How has worship been an antidote to fear and anxiety in your past?
4. Read Psalm 95:1-6. God deserves our praises regardless of our circumstances. Describe a time in your life that did not turn out as you had hoped or expected, but you continued to give God praise. How did worshiping during that time change your view of your situation and of God?
5. Read Romans 12:1-2. What do you think Paul meant when he said we need to let God change the way we think? In what ways has God changed your thinking?
6. Read Revelation 5:11-12. How does it make you feel to know that the angels in heaven are worshiping God, too? What do you think worship in heaven looks like?
7. Together, as a group, make a list of praiseworthy characteristics of God. Spend time in prayer giving thanks to God for who He is and for all the wonderful things He has done.