



You're Welcome Here!

A Journey in Prayer - Study Guide for the Teaching Series

Week 6 – Sunday 24th May 2020: Praise-Powered Prayer

Praise: the joyful thanking and adoring of God, and the celebration of His goodness and grace

CS Lewis had difficulty understanding why God calls us to praise Him until he realised that this is how we would be able to experience the enjoyment of knowing God's goodness, and the enjoyment of sharing that with God, and the enjoyment of sharing that joy with others. Then he embraced it fully like the Psalmists. He said, "Praise completes our joy in Him."

1. How do you relate to CS Lewis' journey from finding difficulty to finding joy in praise?
2. In Jesus' instruction on prayer in the Lord's Prayer, praise comes first – may Your Name be revered. Tim Keller says, praise and adoration must have a prime place in our prayer life. Do you agree? How might starting with praise influence our prayers about ourselves, or others or our world, to follow?

Please read 2 Chronicles 5.13-14

3. In Psalm 22.3 (KJV 2000) it says that God, 'inhabits the praises of Israel.' What do you think that means, and how does it explain your experiences of times of private and corporate praise and worship?

Please read Psalm 8.1-2

4. Someone we used to attend church with years ago now sadly posts comments critical or scornful of God or religion on Facebook. It's really sad. How might we use praise to establish strongholds against the enemy (or enemies of God) to 'silence the avenger' in this situation or similar?

Please read Psalm 145.1-6

5. What habits of praise can you identify from these few verses, and how might you incorporate the practice these habits into your prayer life?
6. CS Lewis encourages turning every pleasure into a channel of adoration. What have you learned or enjoyed about God today? Spend time adoring and praising God now.