

Seven Reasons To Praise God

Big Idea: Your praise really matters. It's a blessing to God and it's also good for you to praise Him! The Bible commands us to praise the Lord as a key part of personal and corporate worship. Praise communicates our faith and trust in God, welcomes the presence of God and gets the joy of the Lord flowing in our lives. Praise is a strong spiritual weapon and it produces and releases God's creativity in us.

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV) *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

Psalms 100:4 (NIV) *Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.*

Philippians 4:4, 6-7 (NIV) *Always be full of joy in the Lord; I say it again, rejoice! ... ⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs, and don't forget to thank him for his answers. ⁷ If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus.*

2 Chronicles 20:21-22 (NIV) *After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the LORD and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: "Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures forever." ²² As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.*

2 Kings 3:15-16a (NIV) *"But now bring me a harpist." While the harpist was playing, the hand of the LORD came on Elisha ¹⁶ and he said, "This is what the LORD says"*

Start Talking:

How has praising God had an impact on your life?

Start Thinking:

Read Psalm 100:4 and 1 Peter 2:9. Why is praise such an important part of our relationship with God and our response to Him?

Read Philippians 4:4, 6-7. How can a commitment to "rejoice in the Lord" in all circumstances and "pray about everything" change your perspective and heart when you go through difficult times?

Read 2 Chronicles 20:21-22. In what ways is praise a weapon that God uses to fight our battles?

Read 2 Kings 3:15-16. How do these verses speak to you about the value of praise music and the impact it can have on your creativity?

Start Praying and Doing:

Pray that God will strengthen your commitment to "rejoice in the Lord always" and pray in all circumstances so that He can give you more of His wisdom and peace as you navigate the challenges you face.