

GOING DEEPER
July 25 & 26, 2020

Title: Reimagine Summer: Worship

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Text: Various Psalms

Discussion Questions:

Worship is one of those things we've really had to reimagine in this season. Yet we know there is something so powerful about music... something that stirs the soul even when words fall short. How we engage in musical worship and praise God might look different these days, but what we discover is that there are several postures of praise that can actually enhance and inform the way we reimagine worship.

A helpful book that has informed this message and Going Deeper questions is *Holy Roar*, by Chris Tomlin and Darren Whitehead.

Hebrew words for "Praise"

Yadah = To revere or worship with extended hands

Psalm 67:3 – *"May the peoples praise (yadah) you, God; may all the peoples praise (yadah) you."*

Psalm 28:2, 63:4, 88:9, 134:2, 141:2, 143:6, Lamentations 3:41, 1 Kings 8:22

→ Do you regularly praise God by lifting your hands? If so, think about or describe the first time you remember lifting your hands in worship in a public setting.

What are we communicating to God when we lift our hands?

Halal = To boast. To rave. To celebrate. To be clamorously foolish.

Psalm 149:3 – *"Let them praise (halal) his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp."*

Psalm 150, Luke 15:23-24, Ecclesiastes 3:4, Philippians 4:4, Psalm 30:11, Acts 3:8

→ Based on these verses, what words would you use to describe praising God? If you grew up in church, think about or describe a typical church service. Was it an outwardly expressive, enthusiastic environment or praising God? When you praise God in a public setting, how conscious are you of others around you?

Tehillah = Exuberant singing. A spontaneous song. A new song

Psalm 22:3 – *"But You are holy, enthroned in the praises (tehillah) of Israel."*

Psalm 40:3, 33:3, 144:9, Revelation 14:3, 5:9, Ephesians 5:19, Matthew 26:26-30

→ Do you ever sing new unrehearsed songs to the Lord? What does this practice do in your heart? Which worship songs have been most meaningful to you and why?

Towdah = to lift hands in adoration. Thanksgiving for things not yet received. A sacrifice of praise.

Psalm 56:11-12 – *"In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? Vows made to You are binding upon me, O God; I will render praises (towdah) to You."*

Psalm 141:1, 88:9, Hebrews 11:6, 1 Corinthians 2:5, Habakkuk 3:2, 2 Corinthians 5:7, Psalm 121:1-2, 20:7

→ After reading these verses, what impact do you think praising God has on your personal faith in him? Is there something that you are currently asking God for? Have you offered praise (towdah) in faith in the midst of this situation?

Zamar = To make music. To celebrate in song and music. To touch the strings or parts of a musical instrument.

Psalm 144:9 – *“I will sing a new song to You, O God; On a harp of ten strings I will sing praises (zamar) to You.”*

Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, Psalm 33:1-4, 1 Samuel 16:23, Psalm 150:4, 144:9, 101:1

→ Do you play a musical instrument? If so, how does playing music help you to express your heart of praising God? What role has music played in your spiritual journey?

Barak = To bless by kneeling or bowing

Psalm 72:11, 15 - *“Yea, all kinda should fall down before him: all nations shall serve him... And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; and daily shall he be praised (barak).”*

Psalm 95:6, Ezekiel 3:23, Ephesians 3:14, Daniel 6:10, Ezra 9:5, Romans 14:11, Acts 20:36, Revelation 7:11

→ Based on these verses, how common do you think the worship practices of kneeling down was in the ancient world? What does kneeling before God communicate to him? How often do you take time to kneel before God? Is this something you wish to do more?

Shabach= To address in a loud tone. To shout

Psalm 145:4 – *“One generation shall praise (shabach) Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.”*

Psalm 98:4, 71:23, 35:27, 66:1-2, 95:1, Joshua 6:20, Ezra 3:11, Isaiah 12:6

→ Have you ever been in an environment where you were part of a loud corporate shout of praise? Think about or describe that scene. How did you feel in that moment?

SO WHAT:

“Music is more powerful than we can even understand. It can soften our hearts, soothe our troubled souls. It opens a door to the spiritual world. It paves the road for the Spirit’s coming.” – Holy Roar

NEVER STOP PRAYING

- Giving thanks for an opportunity to rest, renew and restore with a vacation this summer
- For connection and that you would find people to encourage each other, pray together and help each other take your next step in following Jesus
- For Darcy and the team at Helen’s Acres as they feed the city
- For a vaccine for COVID-19 and an effective treatment plan for those who are infected.
- For our leaders locally, provincially and federally as they deal the challenges to social support, healthcare and fiscal systems because of COVID-19