

January 9, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Daily Theme - **Signing Praise**

Scripture - Psalm 9:1-2

Our ears tend to perk up when we hear the word, benefits. Whether it in our compensation package at work or a particular activity we may engage in, there is always something special about finding out 'what is in for me?'

As we begin the second week of 100 Days of Prayer, we want to focus our prayers on the beautiful character and wonderful provision of God. We will give Him the glory and position that He is due, but did you know that there is something in it for you? Even in the midst of us giving praise to God, we benefit. Praising God helps us combat depression, anxiety, loneliness, and feelings of defeat. Praise helps us keep our focus on the Lord instead of our situations. Praise helps us to love our brothers and sisters the way God commands. Praising God helps us walk in the victory that is ours in Christ Jesus.

How beautiful is God? Even in us taking the focus off ourselves and praising Him, He continues to bless us. No wonder David writes these words of Psalm 9, that he gives his whole heart to singing the praises of God and he isn't holding anything back.

Unfortunately, many of us hold out on God, sometimes because of fear (perhaps the fear of what people will say or think). We have to move beyond that fear and praise God aloud and on purpose. Let's open our mouths and tell the world. Let's sing praises to God and to His name. Even if we're not the best singers in the world, we can still sing praises to His name.

Themes to pray over

- Take one word that describes God's character and thank Him for that
- Praise God that His promises are true and faithful
- Praise the Lord for mercy He demonstrated in past chapters of your life

A prayer of praise to God

Dear Lord,

My heart is filled with joy when I look to You. You are Lord of all creation and make all things new, including me. I am filled with peace when I think of your love for me. For you are Lord, you're right beside me and keep me safe. You Lord, are my Rock and my Hope. You are truth and worthy of my praise.

Amen

Additional Resources

- A.W. Tozer's book, The Knowledge of the Holy.
- Praise medley <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J23rXNI0XYQ>

A Question

Why do you think it's important that God hear us praise Him?

Journal

January 10, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Day Theme - His Sovereignty

1 Chronicles 29:11-13

I have no musical talent, I know it and it's quite obvious to the most casual observer. I can't even clap to the beat of the music. Maybe that's why I am fascinated when I see a video of an orchestra rehearsing and there is the conductor, which every musician can see, controlling everything. With the wave of the baton and the nod of a head, that conductor brings the orchestra to life and the result is beautiful, moving music. During those sessions of rehearsal and performance, the conductor's ear can tell who is on and who needs to go. The conductor is in control and knows every detail on those musicians when they are on stage.

Today, we praise God because He is sovereign. That means He is the ultimate source of all power and all authority of everything that exists. He is in control. That alone, makes Him worthy of my worship.

In King David's farewell address as he dedicates the resources to the building of the Temple (that will be left to the leadership of his son, Solomon), he captures the sovereignty of God in those 3 verses of 1 Chronicles 29. Do you find it comforting to know that God is sovereign and in control? If so, then praise Him today as David did thousands of years ago.

Themes to pray over

- Thank God that He is orchestrating your life
- Praise God that you can hand control of your life to Him, ask Him to help you yield to His plan
- Praise God for His authority over this world

A prayer for each of us from 1 Chronicles 29:11-13

"Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

Amen

A Question for you

How do you demonstrate trust in God while the world, maybe even your world, seems to be crumbling around you?

Additional Resources

- God Is In Control, a book by Charles Stanley
- Is God Really In Control? By Tim Challis

Journal

January 11, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Daily Theme - **He Is Healer**

Scripture (Exodus 15:22-27)

I have a good memory, it's just short. I would have a fit in well with the Hebrews following Moses, travelling through the wilderness from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. The Hebrews had just experienced the miracle of the parting of the Red Sea. It was pretty spectacular and kept them on a spiritual high for...three days!

Three short days after God saved them in dramatic fashion from the Egyptians, the people are grumbling because there was a need for fresh water for these 3 million people and their livestock. Instead of remembering what God had just done 72 hours earlier (ironically with water), they complained to Moses.

God steps in again and provides water, but not without first impressing upon them that He is Healer. God being their healer means that He is the one who restores them to fullness, both physically and spiritually. God will make them whole. The Lord continues to spiritually heal today and we see evidence of that when people make Jesus their Saviour. God may also physically heal as well. We celebrate His provision in our lives.

Themes to pray

- Thank God for the healing you've experienced in life
- Praise God that He met your greatest need, not necessarily your every need
- Pray for healing that you feel you need during this time
- Pray for the healing of someone you that God brings to mind

A prayer for you today.

Loving God, I praise You for Your healing touch in my life. I pray that you will comfort me in my suffering, lend skill to the hands of my healers, and bless the means used for my cure. Give me such confidence in the power of your grace, that even when I am afraid, I may put my whole trust in you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Additional Resources

- A broadcast from Focus on the Family regarding God as Healer <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/episodes/broadcast/experiencing-gods-healing-hand/>

Journal

January 12, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Daily Theme - **He is Provider**

Scripture - Genesis 22:9-14

We must learn to trust the Lord to be our Provider, even when our situation seems dire and we don't understand what God is doing.

In Genesis 22:9-14 God asks Abraham to sacrifice his only son as an offering. - How could God ask such a thing from Abraham? Why would He require such an act? - God wants to see if we are willing to obey. He will test us to see where we have placed our faith. Are we completely surrendered or are we still holding onto something that is taking our attention away from Him?

Before they arrived at the place where God told them to go, Isaac had a question. "We have the wood and the fire, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" Abraham's response was "God will provide a lamb, my son." And. He. Did!

We now know that Jesus was that ultimate lamb slain for us. He paid the price for which we could never repay. Thank God for providing what we need in His exact timing.

Themes To Pray Over

- Praise God for the people He has provided in your life
- Praise the Lord for making you whole in your spiritual life, because of Jesus
- Praise God for your home and your homeland
- Praise God for providing grace and patience with you

A Prayer For Us All

Lord, I thank you for being my Provider. Please forgive me when I have not trusted your ways in my life. Help me to believe that you will supply all my needs in every circumstance I go through. Thank you that because of Christ Jesus, you made a way for me to be reconciled to You. In Jesus name, Amen

Additional Verses

Philippians 4:19 - "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."

Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

A Question

A ram was provided to Abraham in the verses above...when did God provide a ram in your life?

Journal

January 13, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Daily Theme - **God Transcends All**

Scripture - Psalm 113:1-9

God is known, and unknown. It's a simple and a mind-boggling statement. When we read Psalm 113 we see God is transcendent (meaning He exists above all and is independent of all) and yet, we marvel that He is not unconcerned about His creatures and His creation.

On the one hand, God is high, exalted, above and beyond anything and everything. Really, who are we in comparison? On the other hand, He looks in compassion on His creatures, raising the poor from the dust, lifting the needy out of the ash heap and granting motherhood to the barren. This is our God!

Gloriously transcendent, yet preciously personal, because of our Savior Jesus, who came close to us when He dwelt among us. Praise the Lord!

Themes to pray about

- Thank God that He is over everything and everyone
- Praise God that His Son humbled Himself to meet our need
- Tell God how much in awe you are over His power to create this world and at the same time be so active in your life.
- Thank God for His Word and Spirit which makes Him to know to you and how excited you are to get to know Him more.

A prayer to God

Heavenly Father, You are exalted in the heavens yet near to Your children. I rest in the fact that You are transcendent and powerful. Through You, anything is possible. The Israelites saw Your power on display when You parted the Red Sea, and I ask that You would move through the difficulties I face today. You alone are awesome in glorious deeds, and I thank You that You hear my prayers. In Jesus' name, amen.

A question to ponder

Are you currently facing an obstacle or opposition to your faith? What is it?

Additional Resources

- Blog entry of Grand Canyon University <https://www.gcu.edu/blog/theology-ministry/theology-thursday-transcendence>
- An Essay on the Transcendence of God <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/divine-transcendence-immanence/>

Journal

January 14, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Daily Theme - **My Salvation**

Scripture - John 5:19-24

New life brings joy, excitement and renewed perspective. When more branches are added to your family tree, there is an enthusiasm in the family that possibly hasn't been there for a while. As those little lives grow and develop, they always seem to put smile on your face and refresh your spirit.

The same thing happens in the life of a church when people make Jesus their Saviour. There is an energy that flows through a community of faith because we celebrate what God is doing and we're reminded of our own conversion experience. But, there is always a but, that excitement seems to fade as time goes by.

Why have so many of us lost the joy of our salvation? Why have so many of us lost our praise and, instead, walk around sad, depressed, angry, and complaining about the events in our life? How can we experience our joy again?

The Christ-follower who has forgotten the poor shape he was in before salvation will often lose his worship. It is the gravity of how bad our situation was, that makes our salvation so great. If a person saves you from making a mistake on your taxes, that's great; but if they save your life, then there will be a greater thankfulness.

Many have lost the joy of their salvation because they have forgotten how much God has saved them from. Consequently, not only are they often lacking joy but are also prone to bitterness and complaining over things that happen in life. This happens because they forgot how bad their situation previously was and how gracious our Father has been to us.

Themes to Pray About

- Ask God to remind you of your life before knowing Him
- Thank God for His plan of salvation and how it's changed your life now
- Pray that the Holy Spirit renews your salvation joy

A prayer of thankfulness for our salvation

O Lord, thank You for Your Son Jesus Christ our Saviour and for the salvation that we have received through trusting in His death on the cross and His resurrection. Thank You, that He was sent to pay the price for my sins and the sins of the whole world. Lord, I simply want to live in Him and be rooted in Him. I pray that I may grow in grace, mature in the faith and to find my strength in Him. I pray that I may live my life in a manner that glorifies You. I just thank You, Father, for Your amazing gift of salvation, and I pray that my joy in You will speak to the hearts of others.
Amen.

Question of the day

When was the last time you were truly joyous because of the work of God in your life?

Additional Resources

- 7 Ways to restore the joy of your salvation <https://www.bibletruths.org/7-ways-restore-joy-of-your-salvation/>

Journal

January 15, 2022

Theme of Week - Celebrating God's Character and Provision

Daily Theme - Praising God for my identity in Christ

Scripture - Ephesians 2:19-22, Colossians 1:11-13

Quick, what is your identity? It's a question that most people struggle to answer. It's understandable if a person doesn't have a relationship with Jesus and they just can't arrive at a conclusion. But when a Christ-follower is at a loss in how to answer that question, then the truths of Scripture need to get in their way and teach how God views them.

We often forget that no one else but God has the final say in defining you. Not your family or friends, not yourself or your achievements, not your money, nor your own actions. It's God who gets the last word and what a Word it is, His Son Jesus. How comforting to know that God has shown us the way back to Him, it's through His Son.

You might think, "I am a sinner, how can God love me?" You are loved not because you gained that honour to be loved, but because love covers a multitude of sins, and that unconditional love was given to us by Jesus Christ (1 Peter 4:8).

You receive this identity not because God saw all of your hard work to obey the commandments of the Bible but because Jesus paid the penalty of sin and opened the door for you to have a relationship with God. Your identity is new and it's because of Christ. Praise Him today for who you are and if you need a reminder, go to the Additional Resources below and read those Scriptures before going to prayer.

Themes to Prayer Over

- Ask the Holy Spirit to remove any lies that you have believed about yourself
- Pray that God will overwhelm you with the truth from Scripture about who you are because of Jesus
- Pray that you will be freed from

A prayer for us all today

Lord, I pray that You would unlock my heart that I might be fully alive to my true identity in You. Give me clear revelation to see myself the way You see me. Help me to stand in Your truth against all enemy attacks and guard my heart. Help me to identify the lies, and reveal to me any places where I am chained to the past in a negative way. I repent of any lies of the past. [Name those lies and ask God to forgive you.] Teach me to hear Your voice and not believe the enemy's destructive lies about who I am. I thank You for my uniqueness and that I am made in Your image. I choose to believe the truth about how You see me. I thank You that I can hope in the future. Help me to live a fruitful life now and overflow with Your love to others. Give me greater authority in my prayer life. I want to know You on a deeper level, and I don't want anything to hinder my relationship with You.

Amen

Question of the Day

Based on what you read and prayed today, how would you describe your identity now?

Additional Resources

- My Identity in Christ <https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/bible-verses-about-our-identity-in-christ/>

Journal
