

MESSAGE River Valley Notes

Part #6: The People of Praise

September 30, 2007

Part #6: The People of Praise

...continued

The Big Idea: In the deepest, most consequential areas of our lives, we don't need new wisdom. We need _____ wisdom.

Jeremiah 6:16 This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. (NIV)

Ancient Habit #6: _____.

Praise: To verbally _____ & collectively _____ the _____ & involvement of God.

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

Acts 2:42-47 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (NIV)

Question: To what extent is our praise toward God connected to our circumstances? Answer: _____.

Acts 16:23-25 They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. ... Around midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. (NLT)

Habakkuk 3:17-19 Though the cherry trees don't blossom and the strawberries don't ripen, Though the apples are worm-eaten and the wheat fields stunted, Though the sheep pens are sheepless and the cattle barns empty, I'm singing joyful praise to GOD. I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God. Counting on GOD'S Rule to prevail, I take heart and gain strength. I run like a deer. I feel like I'm king of the mountain! (MESSAGE)

Praise Q & A:

	Toward People	Toward God
What?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To _____ To express gratitude To be _____ by _____ To express deep _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To _____ To express gratitude To be _____ by _____ To express deep _____
When?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They _____ well They entertain us _____ They _____ us _____ 	_____
Why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because they _____ well Because they entertain us _____ Because they benefit us _____ 	Because He is _____

Clarifying Motive:

1. " _____ " determines "when."
2. "When" reveals " _____ "... no matter what "why" I claim.

Misunderstanding Leads to Weirdness:

- I praise God _____ my circumstances are pleasing _____ my circumstances are pleasing.
- I praise God when my circumstances are tough, because _____ Him to make them better.
- I praise God when He has performed well in my life, because He has performed well in my life.
- I praise God when the mood strikes me because _____ Him to make me feel good.
- I praise God when I like the song because... I like the _____.
- I praise God when I feel worthy, because _____ worthy.
- I praise God when I feel good about myself, because I am _____.

Authentic Praise: We praise God _____ & freely because He is _____... no matter what.