

# THE POWER OF PRAISE

## The Power of Praise

### Key idea:

John's vision of a heavenly picture of praise is the model we must emulate in order to see the Power of Praise in our lives.

### Key text:

Revelation 4:6-11 (ESV)

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: **7** the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. **8** And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

**9** And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, **10** the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

**11** "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

### Key points:

1. Praise Requires Reciprocity.
2. Praise Communicates the Characteristics of God back to God.
3. Praise Requires Prostration

### Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to me? Why?
2. What provision has God given that I can present to God as a sacrifice of praise?
3. Paul and Silas were imprisoned for preaching the gospel. After they praised God through hymns and prayer, God miraculously freed them from prison. Ask yourself, what prisons, do I find myself in (i.e., prison of depression, addiction, gossip, shame, etc)? What characteristic of God can I focus on while I wait on God to release me from that prison?
4. Do I struggle to express myself when worshipping and praising God?
5. The author of Hebrews writes, "through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name" (Heb. 13:15). What does it mean when it says, "sacrifice of praise?" How can I offer God a sacrifice of praise?
6. What daily action can I take that focuses my gaze on God?
7. When in my life am I tempted to give too much attention to the things that cause stress in my life?
8. Who will I call or see to encourage this week? Who can I encourage to worship this King this coming Sunday?