

WHAT IS PRAISE?

Praise, in the original Greek, means to sing, to tell of, to give, or to confess. * In simpler terms, it means to be thankful for God's blessings, and to declare that good news to God and to others. Here are some examples in Scripture:

describe how to praise God for what He has done for us.

[Psalms 9:1-3, 18:2-3 and 28:2, & 6-7](#)

[Psalm 79:13](#) tells us to praise God by passing from generation to generation the knowledge of his goodness, grace, and mercy.

We are to offer God praise and thanks. In other words, giving praise is a form of sacrifice. [Hebrews 13:15](#)

Our faith naturally leads to our praise of God. [1 Peter 1:7](#)

In [Acts 16:25](#), we see Paul and Silas praising God and witnessing to other prisoners. It is also worthy to note that they were praising God under horrible circumstances in their lives.

Each of these Scriptures emphasize that praise is an outward expression, not just to God, but in order to tell others how good God is.

This is the true foundation of praise. It doesn't have to be directly correlated with music, and it has nothing to do with putting on a show.

True praise comes from deep in the heart, and the outcome is that others see God working in us.

A wonderful example of this can be found in the song Mary proclaims while still carrying Jesus in her womb Filled with his Spirit and fully aware of his greatness, Mary tells of how magnificent God is. *She* sings of how great he is, not only to her, but to all people of all nations. ([Luke 1:46-55](#)).

WHAT IS WORSHIP?

There is great importance to be placed on worship. The devil himself knew this, which is why he made it the final temptation for Jesus in the wilderness ([Matthew 4:8-10](#)).

What we worship is who and what we will follow. Worship goes beyond words and feelings. It is the foundation for our true servanthood towards God. Therefore worship is so intimate — it defines our relationship with him.

There is nothing on this earth, or in our lives, that is more important than our relationship with God.

Worship, in both the original Greek and Hebrew, convey the idea of: "to prostrate oneself, to bow down, to fall face down, to pay homage and to pay respect." *

In other words, worship is the highest form of honor and respect that we can show towards God. While worship can be done in public, its main directive is very different from praise. Worship is a direct conversation between you and God. It is highly intimate and personal. Here are some examples in Scripture:

By worshipping, we are putting God first in our lives. [Luke 17:15-16, 7:36-38](#)

This coincides with what Jesus said when he quoted the greatest commandment from the Old Testament. [Matthew 22:35-40](#)

There's difference between worshipping by human rules as opposed to worshipping from the heart. [Isaiah 29:13](#)

[John](#) tells us that all may worship God, and that we are to worship him in spirit and in truth. [John 4:23-24](#)

[Romans](#) explains how we can be deceived and worship the things God has created rather than worshipping him who is the Creator. [Romans 1:25](#)