

Teaching a New Believer the Foundations of Praise and Worship

Training Objective

That a new believer will become rooted in a life of continual praise and worship.

Definition

Praise and worship are vocal utterances either in speech or songs that describe the unending attributes of God (merciful, faithful, loving, powerful, etc...). There are many forms of worship, however this bible study should focus on the aforementioned form.

Why teach a new believer to speak/sing words of praise and worship

- A. It is a way for them to acknowledge that God alone is worthy. (Ps 29:2, Ps 100)
- B. They can experience God's presence and hear his voice. (Acts 13:2)
- C. It is a proper response in times of difficulty or tragedy. (Job 1:19-21, 2 Sam 12: 19-20, 1 Pet 4:16)
- D. To help them not to lose focus on Him. (2 Ch 7:19-20, Mat 4:10)
- E. To prepare them for the daily battles in life. (2 Ch 20: 17-19)
- F. As a way for them to express the gratitude of their salvation. (John 9:38, Heb 12:28, 1 Pet 2:9)
- G. For their protection against spiritual attacks. (Ps 8:2)
- H. It was modeled by Jesus. (Mat 11:25)

How to teach a new believer to speak/sing words of praise and worship

- A. **Pacesetting:** As a disciple of Christ, be living a life that is clothed in praise and worship. Be a model and an encourager to other Christians in their practice of praise and worship.
- B. **Pray:** Ask God to instill a heart of praise and worship in the new believer and ask Him to teach the believer how to work this out.

C. **Plan:** - Help them get started and provide focus.

1. Explain what praise and worship is and how it has helped you in the context of your relationship with Jesus.
2. Ask what their thoughts are and help answer any questions they have.
3. Provide them with examples of how you start and end each day with saying a few words of praise to God.
4. Discuss the benefits of private and corporate worship.
5. Inquire into what style of music they like and provide them with suggestions of Christian artists that suit their preferred style. If you have resources, purchase them their first worship CD.
6. Share with them what it means to worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4:23-24)
7. Inquire about any fears they have related to praise and worship.

D. **Purpose:** Help them commit to daily praise and worship.

1. Ask them if they would like to learn how to praise God. Suggested readings of selected Psalms is a great start.
2. Ask them if they would like to spend a little time each week in private worship and participate in corporate worship during church services.
3. Help them plan time to praise and worship God. Make suggestions such as worshiping with a music CD on the commute to work or praising God before going to bed at night.

E. **Prudence:** Help them avoid common pitfalls.

1. Be cautious not to set unrealistic goals. As the new believer experiences intimacy in praise and worship, they will naturally be drawn to more.
2. As they have intimate experiences in praise and worship make sure they are seeking God and not the experience.

F. Persist: Keep them going.

1. When spending time with the new believer ask them how their times of praise and worship are going.
2. If they become discouraged or feel inadequate, share with them how you overcome such issues and discuss how we worship even when we don't feel like it.
3. Spend time praising and worship God together. Although this may be awkward at first, it will be of great encouragement to the new believer.

G. Pass it On: Multiplication.

1. Help them expose other Christians to a life of continual praise and worship. Have them explain to you how it has helped them in their relationship with Jesus.
2. Encourage them to do the same with another person, when you provide your testimony of how a life of continual praise and worship has helped you.

Resources

Publications

- A. Why worship – A study of biblical worship (Newman)
- B. Purpose and Power of Praise and Worship Study Guide (Munroe)
- C. Psalms Prayer and Praise (Explorer's Bible Study)

Websites

- A. www.experiencingworship.com
- B. www.christianmusic.com