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START OF TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:05] Jimmy Knott

Greetings, my friend. Welcome to the podcast. Teaching that transforms with Pastor Jimmy Knott. Thanks so much for joining me today. I'm really grateful that you've chosen to tune in and to listen. Today, I want to continue our series of teachings through my newest book, Lord Teach US to Pray.

[00:00:25] Jimmy Knott

I do hope you'll go to Amazon. It's available in paperback. Also in digital and I hope that you'll get it and read it and write a review on it. I'd be honored if you did that. Last time in a podcast on the book I talked about: What is prayer? And why pray at all?

[00:00:42] Jimmy Knott

What is prayer? I think we over-complicate it prayers, just basically talking with God is communicating, conversing with God that's all it is it's nothing more and nothing less.

[00:00:53] Jimmy Knott

It's simply that just having a conversation with God, just like you would someone else.

[00:00:59] Jimmy Knott

And then why pray at all? Oh, I gave you numerous reasons to pray at all. But maybe the most important one was the first one is to build a closer, more intimate relationship with God.

[00:01:11] Jimmy Knott

To get to know him better and to find his plan and purpose for our lives, that's very, very important, very important.

[00:01:20] Jimmy Knott

Today, I want us to begin to look at a plan, a strategy where you and I can practice the important aspects or elements of prayer. And I use one that's not original with me. I use the word acts. A C T S

[00:01:34] Jimmy Knott

A is for adoration. C is for confession. T is for Thanksgiving. And S is for supplication. That having two parts intercession, praying for others and petition, praying for the needs that are in my own personal life.

[00:01:54] Jimmy Knott

Those are very, very important, very, very important to in our lives.

[00:01:58] Jimmy Knott

But today we're going to begin at the beginning. And that is by looking into the adoration and praise. And I'm just going cover four or five very simple truths about adoration, how to practice this in our own personal prayer time. First thing is, what is praise, to praise God?

[00:02:16] Jimmy Knott

To praise God is to adore God for who he is and to worship him for his unequalled worth.

[00:02:24] Jimmy Knott

Let me ask you, think right now who are what is one of your most prized possessions? Who are what? You know, we prize things that we value things that are people that are very important to us. And I find it very interesting that the French word for praise is to prize. Prizer is the actual word to prize, to cherish, to respect, to value. Praise is to adore and worship God for who he is. And like prayer in general, it's not just an act. It's not just something that we sit down before the Lord and we do as an activity. It's also an attitude or a way of life. The Psalmist sad and Psalm 119 164. Seven times a day. I praise you for your righteous rules. We praise him seven times a day. I don't know that that's intended to be literal. I think the idea there is that we continually offer up the lips of praise to God who is worthy. The second thing I want to deal with is why praise it all? Why is this important? You know, life is hard. Life is difficult. It's often very, very unfair. So what do we find to praise about? Well, I think there are several things that we can

praise first. We can praise God, cos as I said, he's worthy. Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name, to who you are, your identity, your worthy God to be worshiped by me and by everyone else. Why praise it all? Because God is worthy of our praise. Here's another reason praise glorifies God, the psalmist writes, and Psalm 50, verse 23, who ever offers praise, glorifies me, honors me, sets the magnifying glass. Obey. Puts the focus on me. We honor him when we praise him. Here's another reason.

[00:04:21] Jimmy Knott

Praise, praise is a test. It tests our praise. Life is a test. Or where we are in our relationship on our walk with God.

[00:04:31] Jimmy Knott

The writer of Proverbs said The Crucible is for silver and the furnaces for gold, but a man is judged by his praise. Maybe our praise life is one of the test or assessment of where we are in our own spiritual journey with God.

[00:04:48] Jimmy Knott

Praise. Praise is defined. It's defined by who? Who Almighty God dwells in us, not by what happens to us. We don't praise because we feel like it. Because we often don't feel like it. We praise because, he's worth it. He is deserving of our praise.

[00:05:08] Jimmy Knott

Next thing I want to discuss, why praise? First, why does it come first? Well, in Matthew, chapter six, verse 19 following Jesus is teaching his disciples and the disciples of the future like us how to pray. And this is what he said. "Pray Them like this. Here's the pattern. Our father in heaven hallowed be thy name.

[00:05:31] Jimmy Knott

Hallowed be thy name." Jesus starts focusing on God, hallowed set apart to be recognized, to be separated. The first thing we do in prayer time is we separate ourselves and we know that God is worthy of our worship. And we shift our thinking and our focus from ourselves to our focus on him. Harold Lenzel wrote these words: Since adoration brings man into immediate and direct contact with God in the role of servant to a master or the created to a creator, then adoration is foundation to all other kinds of prayer.

[00:06:12] Jimmy Knott

Absolutely necessary. So praise is important. Another reason that we put praise first, because it provides access to God. The Psalm says we enter into his courts with Thanksgiving and into his gates. Gates through point of access or entry into his gates with praise. So when we praise and adore God. He inhabits are praises and he gives us access to him. That leads me to another reason. Praise is what where God lives. The Psalm citizen Psalm 22:3, the Lord and inhabits, takes resident, makes himself known, is at home in our praise. And when we praise God, he makes himself uniquely known in very special ways in our lives. And then here's another reason a praise First: God created everyone and everything to bring praise to him. Psalm 150, verse 6. David writes, Let everything that have breath. Praise the Lord. You would think his children would certainly lead the way in doing that.

[00:07:14] Jimmy Knott

I remember in scripture and toward the end of the life of Jesus

[00:07:19]

On tryingful entry into Jerusalem. The people were just laying down palm trees and they were praising in god and singing Hosanna. And the religious leaders stopped Jesus and said,make them stop doing that. And Jesus says, if they don't do it, then the rocks are the stones will cry out. God is deserving and worthy of our praise. And he will be praised even if it comes from the mountains and from the rocks. Here's another important area. What are some ways that we can praise God? What are some ways that we can praise God? And I think there are three that are really key, important ways for you and I to praise God. Let me mention each one of those. You don't have to do each of these every time, though you could in your personal time. But let me mention the three. First is is to go to the word of God.

[00:08:08] Jimmy Knott

Go to the Bible and use praise scriptures. The Psalms has lots of praise scriptures. But especially I mean, I give you some suggestions. Psalm 18, Psalm 100, Psalm 103, Psalms 113 to 118 and then SOB's, 144 through 150. In fact, that last group, 144 to 150, were known as the Hallel songs. Hallel means to praise, high Praise songs.

[00:08:35] Jimmy Knott

In fact, we get the word hallelujah Hello praise. Jah is a short name for tests of the name of God. Hallelujah. What does it mean? Praise God. Praise God. So you scripture just read scripture to God, especially praise scriptures. A second way to praise God is to praise his name.

[00:08:58] Jimmy Knott

Praise his name. His name represents who he is. It stands for who he is.

[00:09:05] Jimmy Knott

There are some great names of God. There's Elohim used almost 3000 times in the Old Testament, which is a plural form, the referring to the trinity of God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. One of my favorites, El Shaddai, El God, Shaddai Almighty God Almighty Adana means Lord Sovereign Ruler in charge.

[00:09:29] Jimmy Knott

I love especially some of the Old Testament names that take place in a given context where God is called Jehovah, Jehovah. And there's just several of these in the Old Testament, and fighting those and reading the context in which they take place can be so

meaningful and praising God précis. Jehova GIROA the Lord provides Jehovah Roffey The Lord Heals Jehovah. Niecy The Lord is our banner Jehovah M Kaddish for the Lord just sanctifies Jehovah Chello of the Lord Our Peace Jehovah Roahey the Lord My Shepherd Jehovah CDK KNU The Lord, My Righteousness Jehovah Qamar. The Lord is present. All of those are wonderful ways to praise God through his names, which represent his character.

[00:10:19] Jimmy Knott

And then one final area that is really, I think, important to praise his praising God for his attributes or for his qualities, for his for his distinctives. He is righteous, he is all wise, he is all powerful, he is all knowledgeable. He is God who is deserving of our praise because of the very attributes that make up who God is and also reference what God does. A final point that I want to cover in this podcast is what results? What happens when we praise when God's people individually or corporately praise if it's powerful in its effect? It works. It makes a difference. And let me mention a number of things that happens when we praise and adore our God.

[00:11:08] Jimmy Knott

First, we gain greater knowledge of and access to God. I'm telling you, adoration is a straight line to God. It is the shortest distance between me and my God. So when I praise, I am immediately going into the presence of God and getting to know him better. Second, praise wins over worry and depression.

[00:11:31] Jimmy Knott

So many people, and I've been there at times like so many of you listening. We struggle with worry, stress, anxiety and even depression. The word of God and Isaiah, 61 tells us, and as a sixty one to think verse 3, that we are to put on the garment of praise for a spirit of heaviness.

[00:11:52] Jimmy Knott

Praise lifts our inner spirits. Praise sends depression on the run. Another reason we praise is that God is honored and glorified.

[00:12:03] Jimmy Knott

Whosoever offers praise glorifies God, we praise him, and then we give him the worth that he deserves. Here's another reason a powerful reason Satan and his demons flee with God's people. Praise. Praise is one of the most powerful weapons that you and I have as believers against the enemy. I like what Paul Bill Heimer wrote. Satan is allergic to praise. So where there is massive triumph but praise, Satan is paralyzed, bound and banished.

[00:12:35] Jimmy Knott

So read, praise, honor his name, use his name as praise. Play music that praises God. Go to YouTube play a praise song. Play it over and over again. But praise God. Through praise scriptures by recognizing his name and what it stands for and the number and the various attributes of God.

[00:12:55] Jimmy Knott

And it sends that enemy running. Another result to praise praise results is a very practical. If the earth producing more songs 67 versus 5 through 7. Isn't that amazing. Is that amazing that when we praise God, it's like the earth sprouts more fruit and produces more vegetables and so on and so on. What a powerful result of praise. Another, praise results in generous giving.

[00:13:24] Jimmy Knott

Our God is a giving God. Our God is generous. Our God loves to bless us. He loves to give to us. And the closer we get to God, the more we become like God in our heart gets opened and our pocketbook gets opened and we become generous in meeting the needs of others.

[00:13:43] Jimmy Knott

Another result of price, miracles and victories can be wrought through price. Miracles and victories can be wrought through praise. There are a number of especially in the Old Testament, but I'm reminded of second chronicles twenty where King Jehoshaphat is surrounded by the enemy, and he just begins to praise God and God comes to him and gives him victory over the enemy. Miracles in victory can be wrought simply by adoring God. Next, the sacrifice of praise improves our personal worship, which improves or enhances our corporate worship.

[00:14:18] Jimmy Knott

The closer you and I get to God and the more we adore him for who he is, the more that widens and enhances our corporate worship.

[00:14:25] Jimmy Knott

When we get together with the people of God next, those who praise enjoy the blessings of God. He just blesses those who praise him. He just loves people who love him and adore him for who he is. And he brings blessing in their lives as a result of their adoration and praise to him. And then last, praise leaves no room for pride. I think one of the reasons we start with pride is to achieve it with praise is to get our focus off ourselves and on to God when we praise God.

[00:14:57] Jimmy Knott

There is simply no room, no room at all, for pride or for arrogance. Praising God, praising God has no boundaries. Why has it no boundaries? Because God himself has no boundaries. I like what the psalmist said. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord over so I will praise the Lord as long as I live. I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. Psalm 146 Versus 1 & 2 . I'm tellin you, friend, praise works. I'm going to encourage to do this is that close today. Get your Bible or find it on your device and do one or more of these three things.

[00:15:39] Jimmy Knott

Number one, pick out one or two of those praise scriptures that I made reference to a few moments ago and read one of those like Psalm 18 or Psalm 100, or Psalm 103, Psalms 113 to 118 or Psalms 144 to 150 to make it even better.

[00:15:55] Jimmy Knott

Personalize, personalize it. Like here's a for instance, a Psalm 104. Lord, I enter into your gates with Thanksgiving and to your courts with praise, I give you thanks. And I bless your holy name. So personalize it. So just pick one or more price scriptures and just read it and vocally lift it up to God in praise. Here's another thing you can do. Select one or maybe two of the names of God the Elohim, Adoni, or one of the Jehovah names. Read the context in which the Jehovah jireh, the other Jehovah's take place, and praise God that he is a God that provides those things in our lives. And then a third way you could do all of these on a personal time, or maybe just one. Praise God for his attributes.

[00:16:46] Jimmy Knott

Praise God for his attributes, his attributes, his qualities.

[00:16:50] Jimmy Knott

For all that he is, and for all that he does, his omniscience, his omnipotence, his omnipresence, his eternity. He's self-sufficient, he's infinite. He's transient, he's sovereign.

[00:17:05] Jimmy Knott

He's had control. He's holy. He's righteous. He's merciful. He's gracious. He's loving. He's good. I mean, I could go on and own. Praising him for his attributes is one of the best ways to bring adoration and praise to God.

[00:17:21] Jimmy Knott

So prayer, a very simple formula to go through the important elements of prayer acts and it begins with A) adoration.

[00:17:31] Jimmy Knott

And so let's try to practice that this week. Will you do that. Remember, my book is available on Amazon paperback and both e-book I want to thank you for listening to Truth It transforms. Remember, it only transforms us when we apply it. Blessings for Pastor Jimmy. I'll see you next time.

END OF TRANSCRIPT



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