

Church of the Promise

350 Hwy 105
Iowa, La. 70647
337-582-2090

Infusion

Become

Believe

Belong

Befriend

8 Praise & Worship

INFUSING THE LIFE FOUND IN CHRIST
THROUGH FAITH IN GOD'S VITAL PRECEPTS,
MAKING EVERY MEMBER WHOLE
SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

4 His sons used to take turns holding feasts in their homes, and they would invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. 5 When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would send and have them purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, "Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular custom.

As Heaven's outcasted worship leader, Satan attacked Job because Job worshipped God. He challenged Job's worship of God. He accused him of being shallow, materialistic and superficial. He claimed that Job only worshipped God because his following God's ways caused him to be such a blessed man. That was true, But God saw more than Satan could, and allowed Job to prove the invisible. His worship was not shallow and when he passed the testing, Satan had to step down from his challenge as God restored what he destroyed and doubled everything he had been given permission to test. God had Satan give back to Job like you make a child return a stolen toy!

Job's worship set his Children apart.

While it is clear that Job did not have confidence in the faith of his adult children, his worship also proved to set them apart to some degree. Though their earthly lives were forfeited, we can note that God commanded everything Job had to be multiplied. But he only had the same # of children. It indicates that they were not 'eternally' lost. Not implying that you can do anything to procure salvation for anyone else, but that they are merely "set apart", just as a believing spouse "sanctifies" the unbelieving one.

Praise defeats & confuses the enemy.

Psalm 8:2

From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

Jesus quoted this passage also when the religious leaders were jealous of the worship being raised by children because of Him.

Matt 21:16

"Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise'?"

God is omniscient, all knowing, omnipotent, all powerful & omnipresent, all present. Satan is a created being and is limited. He only knows what he happens to hear from you. He cannot hear your thoughts or silent prayer. So, if Satan attacks you and he hears anything about what he did to you, it should be praise to God. The last thing he wants you to do is praise God! If he makes an effort to defeat your praise but you praise God more not less, stronger instead of weaker; then he's not likely to mess with you! Send the devil running! Praise God in adversity! The devil will cross the street to avoid you!

Psalms 118 :15 *The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.*

It's an automatic thing for a person who is fully connected to the Holy Spirit to respond to Him. Just as natural as a conversation with a best friend... The RIGHTEOUS are connected... Connected in prayer, worship, praise, faithful obedience. If you are connected you will respond! It's like being connected to live electricity and expecting to be perfectly still! It ain't happening!



Tools for Praise & Worship

Music

Psalm 33:2 *Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.*

Raising hands

Lamentations 2:19 *“Rise during the night and cry out. Pour out your hearts like water to the Lord. Lift up your hands to him in prayer, pleading for your children,”*

Psalm 28:2 *Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place*

1 Timothy 2:8 *In every place of worship, I want men to pray with holy hands lifted up to God, free from anger and controversy.*

Shouts, singing, dancing, clapping

Psalm 149:3 *Let them praise his name with dancing and make **music** to him with tambourine and harp*

Psalm 47:1 *For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm. Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.*

Words

Thanks, adorations, Bible verse meditations, Reports of victories, declarations of faith!

Reverence

Reverence is sacred honor. Reverencing the sanctuary of God is a response to the presence of God. Treat the church grounds, especially the sanctuary as sacred. Sometimes these actions precede experiencing His presence. Showing honor for the things that are dedicated to God allows a person to easily experience in His presence.

Leviticus 19:30 Observe my Sabbaths and have reverence for my sanctuary. I am the LORD.

Show respect to the people who come to give honor to God. "Seeker friendly" efforts make attempt to make people comfortable in church. That can go too far and quickly turn into dishonor & irreverence. After all isn't making 'self' comfortable the primary occupation of every sinner? Of course dead religion isn't the answer either. Create an atmosphere where entertaining the Holy Spirit is the purpose, not people!

"Reverence for My sanctuary" happens when it is remembered who the "MY" is in this statement. It's your church, but exist for HIM! Built for worship! So, come to worship!

Worship makes the whole Church Stronger:

I Cor 14:26 What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.

The church is you and others like you. It is not the building but the people who come to this common place, to know Him and be known by Him, more & more.

It is a place where miracle of God reaching from invisibility becomes clearly visible. What a marvelous thing.

I found myself crying out from deep within my spirit for the knowledge of the fear of the Lord. I raised my voice, drawing together all my strength from within, and cried, "Father, I want to know and walk in the fear of the Lord!"

I had always seen the love of God as the foundation for relationship with the Lord. I quickly discovered that the fear of the Lord was just as foundational. ~John Bevere~

Isaiah 33:5-6 says:

*The Lord is exalted, for He dwells on high; He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness. He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of Salvation and wisdom and knowledge; **the fear of The Lord** is the key to this treasure.*

I. Wind from Heaven

Do you think the King of kings and Lord of lords is going to come into a place where He is not given due honor and reverence? Do you think the Master of all creation is going to speak when His Word is not respected enough to be listened to attentively? You're deceived if you do!"

By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; and before all the people I must be glorified. Leviticus 10:3

Void of God's presence: What does that look like?

- A. People stand with eyes open and look at something or someone in the building.
- B. Many appear bored, their hands thrust into their pockets or hung heavy at their sides.
- C. Body postures and countenances give the appearance of a casual crowd waiting patiently for a show to begin.
- D. Some talk to one another, others roam the isles, wandering in and out of the auditorium.

This creates a spiritual atmosphere of heaviness, void of God's presence. His presence is certainly not there.

"Do you think the King of kings and Lord of lords is going to come into a place where He is not given due honor and reverence? Do you think the Master of all creation is going to speak when His Word is not respected enough to be listened to attentively? You're deceived if you do!"

The Lord NEVER comes where He is not revered.

The Spirit of God will arrest the people's attention by His Word. The Word of God will pound through the hardened shells of their hearts. With repentance, comes the presence of the Lord. Sometimes accompanied by:

- A. Sobs and cries from the crowd
- B. Cleansing and refreshing
- C. Intensified prayer
- D. Overflow brings silence, reverence fear
- E. Sometimes, spiritual manifestations
 - a. Angels
 - b. Fire falling

- F. Restored respect for the presence of the Lord.
- G. Anointed worship

In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.

Psalm 5:7

All true worship is anchored in a reverence for His presence.

God says,

“You shall....reverence My sanctuary: I am the Lord”

Lev. 19:30

Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! Isaiah 6:3

We have sung these exact words in our churches in hymn form. Yet often our praises ring void of the passion found in the angels. You can see people yawning or glancing about as they sing the words. Oh, how different is the atmosphere in God’s throne room!

These mighty angels are not bored or restless; they are not merely singing nice songs. They do not say, “God, I have been singing this song before your throne for millions of years; do You think a replacement could be brought in? I would like to go explore the other parts of Heaven.” No way! They would not desire to be anywhere else but crying out and singing praises before the throne of God.

These spectacular angels are not merely singing a song. They are responding to what they see. Every moment, through veiled eyes they glimpse another facet and a greater dimension of God’s glory being revealed. Overwhelmed, they shout, “Holy, Holy, Holy!” In fact, their combined cry is so loud that the posts of the door are shaken by their voices and the entire room is filled with smoke. Wow, it’s one thing for sound waves to shake a natural building here on the earth, but it is quite another matter to shake the doorposts of heaven’s architecture! These angels have been around God’s throne for untold ages, for time immeasurable. Yet they experience a perpetual revelation of God’s power and wisdom. His greatness is truly unsearchable.

THIS WEEK’S BIBLE READING: Philemon

Use the Epistles Study tool as you read. Return your completed form to the next session for credit. You will get much more from the time if you prepare in advance by reading prayerfully through the assignment: