

Family Studies on Praise in Worship - Giving Our All

- Recommended Hymn: Trust And Obey
- **1 Samuel 15:22** - “**And Samuel said, ‘Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.’”**
 - To whom did Samuel say this, and why? How does the context of these statements affect their meaning?
 - If this verse is true, why was so much of the Old Testament focused around the idea of sacrifices?
 - How does the life of Christ prove this verse to be true? How can we prove this verse to be true in our walk with God?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** our obedient worship to be acceptable to the Lord, and for our obedient lives to glorify Him always.
- Recommended Hymn: He's Sweet I Know
- **Nehemiah 8:12** - “**And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.**”
 - Read this passage (Nehemiah 8:1-12) together. What had motivated the people to rejoice in this way?
 - In what ways does the worship of the Israelites in this passage point forward to our worship as Christians today?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** our worship to be based in God's Word and in the joy that we have as His redeemed people.
- Recommended Hymn: Prince of Peace
- **Matthew 5:23-24** - “**So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”**
 - Why does God care about our relationships with other people? Why do our relationships have an impact on the value of our worship?
 - How can we help encourage positive and healthy relationships in our family and in the church?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** peace and love within the family of God, and unity in our expression of His glory and our joy.

- Recommended Hymn: I Surrender All
- **Mark 12:43-44 - “And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And He called His disciples to him and said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box.’”**
 - What does this widow’s action suggest about her faith? In what ways is this gift considered an act of worship?
 - What about this widow’s gift is special? Why is Jesus making sure that all of His disciples take note of her example?
 - In what ways can our worship to God resemble this widow’s gift? In what ways can our worship to God be an example for others to take note of and follow themselves?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** opportunities to be an example to others of obedience, sacrifice, and faithful worship to God.
- Recommended Hymn: Do All in the Name of the Lord
- **Colossians 3:17 - “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**
 - Is our worship to God being done in the name of the Lord Jesus? How do we know this is the case?
 - What are some different kinds of blessings that we receive from God? How does the worship described in the New Testament help us to express our thanks for these different kinds of blessings?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** God to guide us in our worship and in our daily lives so that all that we do may be done in His honor.
- Recommended Hymn: Shout to the Lord
- **Hebrews 13:15 - “Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.”**
 - How is praising God a sacrifice on our part?
 - Where else does the New Testament talk about the importance of our speech? What lessons can we learn from these passages that also apply in the context of our worship?
 - How do we acknowledge God in our worship? How does this help us to acknowledge Him in our daily lives as individuals and as a church family?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** God to stir up praise within our hearts so that we and others around us may acknowledge His goodness daily.