

Exalting the Lord ~ Small Group Study **January 15 - Week#1 Overview of Exalting the Lord**

1] Introduction

Opening Exercise – In your small group, ask who can know what is the BPPC Vision?
No fair looking at notes ☺.

2] Unfolding* of the Word

Read John 4:1-42 out loud (include as many as want to read)

- [1] Why was it shocking for Jesus to ask the woman at the well for a drink of water?
(see v.9 / status of women in that culture)
(the time of day/no other women were around)

[2] Who does the Father seek to be His worshiper? (John 4:23,24)

[3] What is meant by *spirit* and *truth*?
Regarding the *spirit* read Rom 8:26-27 & 2 Cor 3:17-18

Regarding the *truth* read - Ps 119:160 & 2 Tim 3:16

How do we worship in *spirit* and *truth*?

3] What is worship all about? Read Ps 22:3
It's all about the Lord.

Worship is **for** Him (we worship Him on His terms)

Worship is **to** Him (our worship is Him centered)

Worship is **with** Him (the fruit of our worship is His production)

4] Looking ahead - Exalting the Lord is worshiping the Lord in *spirit and truth*
Exalting the Lord is **Preparation** for Him

Exalting the Lord is **Proclamation** to Him

Exalting the Lord is **Participation** with Him

We will look in depth next week regarding Exalting the Lord and our *Preparation for Him*

*Psalm 119:130

BPPC's 3E's

Exalting the Lord ~ Small Group Study

January 22 - Week#2 Exalting the Lord is *Preparation* for Him

1] Introduction

Review from last week, any additional thoughts about what is meant by worshipping the Father in *spirit* and *truth*?

2] Unfolding* of the Word: what is meant by *Preparation* for Him

Read Psalm 24:3-6; 15:1; 65:4

[1] David asks the question, who can worship (exalt) the Lord.

[2] What are the conditions needed in order to worship?

[3] What are the results?

As we approach exalting the Lord, our actions, intentions and attitudes need to be put in order.

3] Preparation for Him in regards to **Our Actions**—

We approach with clean hands (ex. confessing our sinful acts)

Approaching the holy hill Ps 24:3,4 (God's presence), we need clean hands (sinful deeds confessed).

We are to prepare, knowing that we are forgiven sinners coming to our forgiving Savior. (1Jn 1:9)

We can not approach a holy God with our sinful deeds unconfessed (Ps 32:5;103:12).

He is able to take our confessed sins and make us clean. (Ps 51:7)

4] Preparation for Him in regards to **Our Intentions**—

We approach worship with a pure heart. Our heart is the seat of our pre-actions, our intentions.

Therefore, not only our actions but also our intentions that are in need of cleansing. Sin is not merely in an act but it is also in our intentions. Murder begins with anger and adultery begins with lust. Sin is sin whether in our fruit (actions) or at the root (our intentions). (Matt 5:22,28; Ja 1:14; 1 John 2:16).

Our approach is having a pure heart (example; praying for our enemies Matt 5:44).

5] Preparation for Him in regards to **Our Attitudes**—

Finally, we approach worship not lifting up our soul (to falsehood) but possessing a humble soul.

Our attitude should be the same as Christ's (Phil 2:5; 1Pt 5:5,6)

In addition to our actions and intentions, an attitude that is humble is necessary.

6] Conclusion

Therefore to Exalt the Lord is to deal seriously with the sins of our actions, sins of our thoughts and our attitude of humility.

How do you Exalt the Lord in your Preparation for Him?

We will look in depth next week regarding Exalting the Lord and our *Proclamation* to Him

{more scriptures for consideration; *Deut 8:14; 2 Chron 26:16; Ps 131:1; Prov 16:18; Prov 29:23; Prov 15:25; Prov 16:5; Isa 2:17; Dan 4:37; Hos 13:6; Hab 2:4*}

BPPC's 3E's

Exalting the Lord ~ Small Group Study

January 29 - Week#3 Exalting the Lord is *Proclamation* to Him

1] Introduction

Review from last week, any additional thoughts about what is meant by *Preparation* for Him.

In addition to Preparation for Him, Exalting the Lord has at its core, clear declarations directed to Him.

It is done in a variety of ways but always directed toward Him.

Proclamation to Him involves our teaching, tribute and testimony.

2] Unfolding* of the Word: what is meant by *Proclamation* to Him

Read Psalm 9:11; 18:46-50; 34:1-3; 40:4-5; 99:1-5,8-9;

3] Proclamation to Him in regards to **Our Teaching**

Acts 5:42;28:30-31; Rom 16:25-27; Eph 1:13-14; 3:20,21; Col 1:28-29; Jude 24,25

We offer Christ centered praise, declaration and honor.

What is there right now you can offer as centered praise, declaration and honor.

4] Proclamation to Him in regards to **Our Tribute**

Tribute - a gift, testimonial, compliment, or the like, given as due or in acknowledgment of gratitude or esteem.

Tribute of song *Ps 144:9; 146:1-2; 147:1,7; 149:1*

Tribute of giving 2 Cor 9:7; Ex 25:2; 35:5, 1 Chron 29:17; Acts 20:35; Rom 12:8; 2 Cor 8:13-15

Tribute of prayer *John 14:13; 16:23; Eph 2:18; Col 3:17*

Tribute of _____ *Ps 150:1-6 (in what else do we give Tribute to Him?)*

5] Proclamation to Him in regards to **Our Testimony**

We commend personal and anecdotal testimony; also corporate and historic evidence of His grace and mercy.

Ps 3:3-5; 5:7-8; 13:5,6; 16:7-11; 18:16-19,46-50

6] Conclusion

Therefore, Exalting the Lord is in our Proclamations to Him. It's in our lessons, our accolades and our evidences declaring clearly the truth of who He is.

Can you think of other scriptures that make clear declarations directed to Him?

BPPC's 3E's

Exalting the Lord ~ Small Group Study

February 5 - Week#4 Exalting the Lord is *Participation* with Him

1] Introduction

Participation with Him--Regards our life, power and fruit--**John 15:5**

Exalting the Lord must include our participation (as attendees and worship teams) with Him because we are branches unable to produce anything apart from Christ, our vine.

2] Unfolding* of the Word: what is meant by *Participation* to Him

Read *John 15:1-12*

What are each of the following: 'true vine', 'vinedresser', 'branch', 'fruit', 'abide', 'glorified'.

Additional scriptures: *John 4:23,24; 6:56; 15:1-12; Rom 1:9; 8:16, 26-27; Gal 4:6; Eph 6:18; Phil 3:3*

3] Participation with Him in **Our Life**

We exalt Christ through His life in us

John 6:52-59, 11:25; 14:6,19; 2 Cor 13:4; Gal 2:20; 1 John 4:9

What does Christ mean when He says "...*you have no life in yourselves.*"(?) *John 6:53*

4] Participation with Him in **Our Power**

We exalt Christ by the power (anointing) He provides us

John 4:23,24; Ps 45:7; Heb 1:9; 2 Cor 1:20-22

What does Christ mean when He says "...*you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...*"? *Acts 1:8*

5] Participation with Him in **Our Fruit**

We exalt Christ with our fruit which He produces

Isa 61:1-3; Phil 1:9-11; Titus 2:10-14; John 15:8,16; Gal 5:22; Phil 1:11; Col 1:3-6

What does Christ mean when He says "...*My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit...*"? *John 15:8*

6] Conclusion

How would you summarize, to a new believer, that in Exalting the Lord, our *Participation* with Him is necessary?

Can you think of other scriptures that make clear our *Participation with Him*?