



Pullin' Weeds Plantin' Seeds

TEMPLE LADIES NEWSLETTER

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Praise Joyfully

Twila Jones

Praise.

This word is used 313 times in our Bible. Of the 313 occurrences, 21 of these refer to someone or something other than Holy God. Webster's 1828 Dictionary – to praise means commendation bestowed on a person for virtues or worthy actions; to magnify; to glorify; to honor.

Praise is public and private.

Praise will be our occupation in Eternity.

ALBERT BARNES – Praise now is one of the great duties of the redeemed. It will be their employment for ever.

PSALM 50:23 – Whoso offered Praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

PSALM 35:28 – And my tongue shall speak of the Thy Righteousness and of Thy Praise all the day long.

CHARLES SPURGEON – Praise is the best sacrifice; true, hearty gracious thanksgiving from a renewed mind. Holy Living is a choice evidence of salvation. He who submits his whole way to divine guidance, and is careful to honor God in his life, brings an offering which the Lord accepts through His Dear Son. The blessing is promised to grateful hearts and holy lives.

PSALM 150:6 – Let everything that hath breath Praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

The next Distinct Quality in our study of Living The Simple Life is PRAISE JOYFULLY.

Continued on Back



SUNDAY, MARCH 22
8:20 AM Church Prayer
9:30 AM Combined SS - K+
10:30 AM Service
6:00 PM Service
MON-WED, MARCH 23-25
7:00 PM Nightly

GUEST SPEAKER

Pastor Jeff Ables
Berean Baptist Church
Springfield, MO



It occurs to me that we don't Praise our God enough or even in the right way. I'm quite sure I do not. This is convicting and humbling – and that is good for me. I belong to God through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. I need to know how important Praise is to God. The last Five Psalms in the Psalter begin and end with "Praise ye the LORD."

All five Psalms have statements such as these: "While I live will I Praise the LORD." "It is good to sing praises unto our God...Praise is comely." These Psalms encompass all of creation with the command for all – everything to Praise the Lord.

One of the best comments on Praise, at least to me, is from Elisabeth Elliot. Please allow me to quote this excerpt from her one of her books.

RESPONSIBLE TO PRAISE*

We cannot always or even often control events, but we can control how we respond to them. When things happen that dismay or appall, we ought to look to God for His meaning, remembering that He is not taken by surprise nor can His purposes be thwarted in the end. What God looks for is those who will WORSHIP Him.

One of the witnesses to the crucifixion was a military officer to whom the scene was surely not a novelty. He had seen plenty of criminals nailed up. But the response of this Man Who hung there was of such an utterly different nature from that of the others, that the centurion knew at once He was innocent. His own response then, rather than one of despair that such a terrible injustice should take place, or of anger at God, Who might have prevented it, was praise. LUKE 23:47, "...he glorified God..."

This is our first responsibility: to glorify God. In the face of

life's worst reversals and tragedies, the response of a faithful Christian is praise – not for the wrong itself certainly, but for Who God is and for the ultimate assurance that there is a pattern being worked out for those who love Him.

*A LAMP UNTO MY FEET, Month 4, Day 30, digital copy

As I contemplate the subject of PRAISE JOYFULLY, I have to ask myself, "Is this what I do in EVERY THING that happens to me in my life?" As Susannah Spurgeon said, "We raise an 'Ebenezer' now and then, but we pitifully fail to obey the command."

We have so much to praise and glorify Him for – salvation alone ought to keep us praising every day at least. Psalm 147:1 – Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely. Praise is comely which means becoming, suited to time and place – it is pleasant – delights God – makes Him glad!

Should not this knowledge encourage us that our God, our Creator, our Savior takes pleasure when we praise and glorify Him? Think about this:

SUSANNAH SPURGEON – Prayer is good, but Praise is better. Praise is prayer in richest fruitfulness, prayer in highest spirituality, prayer in nearest approach to Heaven. Prayer is the language of earth, Praise is the native-tongue of the angels.

It is convicting and challenging to note that when we get to heaven we won't need prayer anymore. We will be in God's Presence, and our prayers will be turned into Praise!

Please join us on Monday, March 9, for a deeper dive into this Distinct Quality of Living The Simple Life. 🌱

Verse Challenge

March 2026: Psalm 146:1-2

Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.
While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Sept 2025: 1 John 2:15-17

Jan 2026: John 15:4-5

Feb 2026: Lamentations 3:25-26

