

Praising God

Ps. 100

One of the reasons the church gathers is to worship the Lord, and praise Him together. John 4:23-24 - God is seeking those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth.

Praise is just one kind of worship. Praise is more than just what we do “at church”, or saying the words “Praise God!”.

Why don't people praise God?

1. Often, because they are not saved at all - just church-goers.
2. They don't have the Holy Ghost.
3. They are not thankful.
4. Don't really know who God is, or love their salvation.
5. Too dignified - embarrassed to be enthusiastic about God. (On the contrary - praise is proper, for 'praise is comely for the upright' - 33:1)
6. Too independent - don't want to be 'followers'.
7. Too lazy or uninterested to learn the songs (or the songs are too uninspiring to want to)
8. Ashamed of their voice or ability.
9. They don't *feel* like it.

How should we praise God?

(an * in last column means it is a known song)

Sing	89:1, 15	I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations. ... Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance.	*
	95:1-2	O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.	*
	105:1-3	O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: ...	*
	Isa. 12:4-6	... make mention that his name is exalted Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.	*
Shout	32:11	Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.	
Clap	47:1	O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.	*
Raise hands	63:4-5	Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. ... my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips.	*
Joyful noise	35:9	And my soul shall be joyful in the Lord; it shall rejoice in His salvation.	
	66:1-2	Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious.	*
	68:3	But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.	
Instruments	81:1-3	Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery. Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.	
	149:3	... let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.	
	150	... trumpet, psaltery, harp, timbrel, dance, stringed instruments and organs, loud cymbals, high sounding cymbals ...	
Dancing	149:3	Let them praise his name in the dance...	
	30:11-12	Thou hast turned my mourning into dancing ...	*
Skilfully, loud	33:3	Sing unto Him a new song, play skilfully with a loud noise.	
Every day	34:1	I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.	*
	70:4	Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified.	*
	145:2	Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.	

With whole heart	111:1	Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.	
	138:1-2	I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee. I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.	
A new song	40:3	And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.	*
	98:1	O sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvellous things.	

Why should we praise God?

1. 'It is a good thing'

92:1-2	It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most high: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.	*
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2. It is how we come into His presence

100:1-2	Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before his presence with singing.	*
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3. To make His deeds known; to declare His glory before the heathen

96:1ff	O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.	*
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4. Because God expects His children to be joyful

Dt. 28:47	Because thou servedst not the Lord thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things.	
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5. To thank Him for salvation and all His blessings

100: 4-5	Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth	*
Heb. 13:15	By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.	

6. Because He is worthy - He is good, His mercy is everlasting

136	O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever.	*
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7. It glorifies God

50:23	Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God.	*
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8. It brings us up out of the grumps

42:5	Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.	
51:12	Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation...	*

In summary,

107:8, ...	O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wondrous works to the children of men!	
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