

# Family Devotional

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Praise. It's a word we hear a lot, but what do you think it means? The dictionary describes praise as the expression of approval, admiration, respect, or gratitude for someone or something.

What are ways people offer praise for things they approve of? Think about favorite foods, sports stars, movie stars, teachers, friends, parents, children etc."

It is good to encourage people for things they do well, but who do you think deserves our highest praise?

**Read:** Psalm 150

How can we offer our praise to God? Reread the Psalm 150. Count the number of instruments it lists and the different ways and places it says to praise God.

Did you know that you can praise God through your actions too? When we obey God's commands and show His love to others, it is an act of worship as well!

**Read:** Matthew 5:16

If we are called to glorify God in everything we do, what could you add to the list? How can we praise God throughout our day?

One way of praising God is giving your all in the gift and talents He has blessed you with. However, when we excel at something, it can be easy for our attention to shift from God to ourselves. Other people might be offering us praise for a job well done. This is when we have the choice to either accept that praise for ourselves or use it as an opportunity to point the praise to God. Think of Christians that have used their platform of excellence to praise God? Think about sports and movie stars, but also those you know personally.

God is worthy of all our praise! "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!"

**Challenge:** Make a Praise poster this week. Get a large piece of paper or poster board and write "Praise the Lord" at the top. As you go throughout your week, be on the lookout for the ways God is at work in the world around you. Look for the big ways, as well as, the small ways. Think about what you are hearing in the news, what your friends are saying and what you observe. Even in difficult circumstances when you take a hard look at it, you can find a way that God is at work. Write all of these on your poster and at the end of the week review them together and praise God for all He has done!

**Remember:** Work together as a family to memorize/meditate on Psalm 150:6 this week.

**Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

Ideas: Write this passage down and hang it on the refrigerator. Say it together as a family during meal time each day. Write it on a chalk or white board and erase a couple of words each day until you can say it by memory.

**Respond:** "Dear Jesus, thank you for giving me life and breath. Help me to keep me eyes open to all you are doing around me. May your praises always be on my lips .....Amen!"