

# Invoking Praise

## ALWAYS INVITE THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

<sup>1</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified." Isaiah 61:1-3 (NKJV)

### 1. It is through the Anointing that we give the garment of praise, but we must cooperate with IT.

- a. We must tune our vessels to be conduits of the Anointing.
- b. If you sing out of tune, it sounds bad, likewise if your body movements and gestures are "out of tune" it looks bad.

### 2. Facial Expressions - <sup>13</sup> *A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.* Proverbs 15:13 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> *In the light of the king's face is life, And his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain.* Proverbs 16:15 (NKJV)

- a. Smile – (not plastic).
- b. Look full of joy.
- c. Express with your face what the song is saying.
- d. Do not look mono-faced or stone-faced, have some type of expression.
- e. Forget about yourself and focus on Him.
- f. You may have to start by exaggerating some expressions.

### 3. Hand Movements – I will lift up my hands in the Sanctuary

- a. Lift your hands
- b. Communicate with your hands
  - i. How – (Indian) [bad]
  - ii. Intimate worship
  - iii. Low "Heil Hitler" [bad]
  - iv. Right turn [bad]
  - v. Half mast
  - vi. Straight up (more for fast praise)

### 4. Body Movements - <sup>13</sup> *And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.* Romans 6:13 (NKJV) Living things move!!!

<sup>1</sup> *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.* Romans 12:1 (NKJV) Present your bodies!

- a. Dancing – on praise songs you should always be moving.
- b. Your body communicates things.
- c. Areas to watch out for:
  - i. Hips
  - ii. Shoulders
  - iii. Hand gestures (at the same time there are some unholy movements)
- d. Move side to side – not stiff, but not too loose – also not too flowy in praise songs (fine for worship)
- e. Be uninhibited in praising with your body, dancing, jumping, spinning, bowing, and/or kneeling.
- f. Your body, your hands and face should flow together. It looks fake if they don't.

### 5. Perseverance

- a. Joshua – they would not have won had they not persevered.
- b. People are lazy – you must instruct and tell them – someone must lead

# Five Responsibilities of Praise Leaders

## 1. Prepare by Prayer

- <sup>1</sup> *Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil.* Ecclesiastes 5:1 (NKJV)
- <sup>20</sup> *But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,* Jude 1:20 (NKJV)
- <sup>18</sup> *praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints--* Ephesians 6:18 (NKJV)

## 2. Promote Praise

- <sup>9</sup> *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;* 1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)
- <sup>2</sup> *Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious.* Psalm 66:2 (NKJV)

## 3. Provoke People

- <sup>24</sup> *And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:* Hebrews 10:24 (KJV)

## 4. Provide the Pattern

- <sup>12</sup> *Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.* 1 Timothy 4:12 (NKJV)

## 5. Prevent Passivity

- <sup>11</sup> *But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You.* Psalm 5:11 (NKJV)

## 9 Ways to Praise

<sup>24</sup> "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." John 4:24 (NASB)

- I. Praise Him where? - <sup>1</sup> *Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse.*
- II. Praise Him Why? - <sup>2</sup> *Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.*
- III. Praise Him how? - <sup>3</sup> *Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre. <sup>4</sup> Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe. <sup>5</sup> Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals.*
- IV. Praise Him who? - <sup>6</sup> *Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!* Psalm 150:1-6

## How?

### 1. Three with Hands

- a. Clapping – *Clap your hands all ye people* Psa 47:1
- b. Lifting – *lift up your hands in the sanctuary and bless the Lord* Psa 134:2
- c. Playing an instrument – <sup>3</sup> *Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp!*  
<sup>4</sup> *Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!*  
<sup>5</sup> *Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals!* Psalm 150:3-5 (NKJV)  
<sup>3</sup> *Sing to Him a new song; Play skillfully with a shout of joy.* Psalm 33:3 (NKJV)

### 2. Three with Mouth

- a. Singing - <sup>2</sup> *Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.* Psalm 100:2
- b. Shout – <sup>1</sup> *Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!* Psalm 47:1
- c. Speak – declare His mighty works

### 3. Three with Body

- a. Dancing – <sup>4</sup> *Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!* Psalm 150:4 (NKJV)
- b. Bowing/kneeling - <sup>6</sup> *Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.* Psalm 95:6 (NASB)
- c. Standing – <sup>8</sup> *Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.* Psalm 33:8 (NASB)