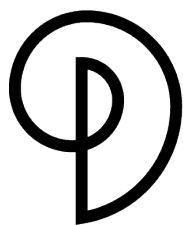


SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Extraordinary Praise

January 14 & 15, 2023

God is worthy of our praise, but God doesn't need our praise. Ultimately, making praise a habit is a gift we give ourselves, lifting our spirits and deepening our love for God.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: PSALM 145

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

Why is Scripture so filled with commands to give God praise? Why are there so many hymns praising God? Part of the answer is that God is so worthy of our praise. But I want to suggest to you that there's more. I believe that praising God is ultimately for our benefit and not for God's benefit. In other words, God doesn't need our praise, but our lives are enriched when we make praise a habit.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share about a time when you praised someone (a spouse, child, co-worker, friend, waitstaff, etc.) for something. What was the circumstance that caused you to give praise? How did expressing praise make you feel? How did they respond?
- Re-read Psalm 145, paying close attention to the reasons given for praising God. Which of these stands out to you today? Why?
- Re-read verses 10-12. What mighty deed(s) of God that you've experienced in your own life do you most love remembering and sharing with others?
- What is your favorite passage of scripture that praises God or your favorite hymn/song of praise? What do you love about it? How does it enrich your life?
- "Praise is a natural response when we encounter something extraordinary, and this world is filled with the extraordinary artistry of God." Share a story about a time you were awestruck by the extraordinary artistry of God. What was your response?
- Share about how praise "lifts your spirits" and/or "deepens your love for God."
- What are some practical ways you can (or do) make praise a habit?

CHALLENGE: This week, make it your intention to see and to savor ten reasons each day to praise God.