

# DEVOTED

## **Study Week Six**

Praising

*Leaders guide for "Devoted" group facilitators.*

**DEVOTED**

Week Six:  
**Praising**

**Study Week Six**  
Praising

*Leaders guide for "Devoted" group facilitators.*

Facilitators, we once again thank you for your devotion to Jesus, His people, and leading your group these past weeks.

**Breaking the Ice:**

Prior to viewing the primer video take a few minutes and read out loud these synonyms of praise: admire, adore, applaud, appreciate, approve, be crazy about, cherish, commend, credit, delight in, esteem, eulogize, extol, glorify, hail, hold in respect, honor, laud, look up to, marvel at, prize, respect, revere, take pleasure in, think highly of, treasure, value, venerate, wonder at and worship.

Ask, what do these words all have in common? (They are all action words; words that seem to demand an active response.) Ask, 'what if any word or words grabbed you'? Ask, 'why'? Allow (ask if necessary) those who respond to expound on why it grabbed her or him.

View the primer video now, please. Let's do a little "out of the box" thinking. Ask 'if praise is expressed actively and not passively, what are some ways praise can be expressed?' (hint, the standards of singing, raising hands, etc., but again, encourage the group to think out of the box ... tithing can be a form of praise, any act of service for or obedience to the Lord can be an act of praise).

**Unpacking this week's message:**

Ask,

“When do you find it easy to praise the Lord?” Ask next, “When do you find it difficult to praise Him?” Arron shared the following ‘praise inhibitors’ ... Personal Preferences, Pain, Pride, Apathy, and Prison. Ask if and how these have made praise difficult.

Ask,

“Is it possible to praise Him in the midst of difficult circumstance?” Ask also “Is it possible to praise Him FOR those difficult circumstances?”

Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-10 and ask “How was Paul able to ultimately praise Jesus that his thorn in the flesh was not removed?” Share with your group the background of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego (you, facilitator read Daniel 3:8-18 to prepare yourself).

Have someone read Daniel 3:16-18 and ask “How could Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego find the strength to face certain death and refuse to worship Nebuchadnezzar’s golden image?” Lead your group to understand that the same Spirit that enabled Paul, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego and myriads of other men and women to praise Him and remain faithful in difficult times is IN US.

Ask,

“reflect back on a difficult situation that now, in hindsight was the best thing that could have happened?” Comment that none of us like difficult circumstances and never want them, but we can praise Him during and even praise Him for them.

### **Bringing the session to a close:**

Facilitator: This, our last Devoted experience session, will close by applying what we have learned. Read out loud Psalm 9:1 in as many different versions present. Then, ask everyone to share the MANY reasons and ways we can PRAISE the Lord. Let the Spirit lead; this should be a wonderful experience as each person spontaneously offers his/her expressions of praise to Jesus.

At the close, join hands and allow all who will pray and you close when all have had the opportunity to pray.

©2014 Arron Chambers

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®)

Copyright © 2001 by Crossway,

a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

All rights reserved.

ESV Text Edition: 2011

This message contains excerpts from the book Devoted. These excerpts may not be reproduced beyond the purposes of this message.

This material is being offered free of charge and is not for resale.

*GIVE IN <sup>TO</sup> THE LOVE  
OF YOUR LIFE.*