2-19-2025... Praising Thru | Persistence



Last week's prayer guide focused on "Praying Through" ...or continuing in prayer until God answers or redirects.

This week we explore the twin principle of "Praising Through" ... which actually moves from prayer to worship. Offering God, thanks and praise for how he is already working in a situation.

While "Praising Through" may be an unfamiliar expression, the principle is fleshed out in both the Old and New Testaments.

Movement 1 Read ...

Paul in **Philippians 4:4-6** offered this coaching... "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, <u>WITH THANKSGIVING</u>, present your requests to God.

Enroute to the Promised land, Joshua is instructed that even though the walls of Jericho were stout and locked up, that God (past tense) had already delivered the city into the hands of the Israelites. Their only role (in obedience) was to walk, worship and shout.

Joshua 6:2-5

² Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, <u>I have</u> <u>delivered Jericho into your hands</u>, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ *Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark*. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the <u>priests blowing the trumpets</u>. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, <u>have</u> <u>the whole army give a loud shout;</u> then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."

Facing a vast army poised to attack, King Jehoshaphat called a fast, and God promised deliverance through a prophet. Listen to Jehoshaphat describe their battle strategy.

2 Chronicles 20:20-22

As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful."

²¹ After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to <u>sing to the Lord and to praise</u> <u>him for the splendour of his holiness</u> as they went out at the head of the army, saying:

"Give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever."

²² <u>As they began to sing and praise</u>, *the Lord set ambushes* against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.

Movement 2 Reflect & Pray...

- ⇒ Why do you suppose God, directs us to praise and give thanks as part of our prayer and warfare strategy?
- ⇒ Select several things you are continuing to pray for and spend a few minutes giving thanks and praise for God's working in those situations. Then continue praying and praising THRU☺

Bonus... Worship Song "Do It Again" https://youtu.be/0B_InQIITxU