

UNRAVELED: Worship when...

Psalm 34

Worship when you are still breathing.

📖 Psalm 34:1–3 (ESV) “I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. ² My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. ³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!”

📖 Ephesians 5:20 (NCV) “Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

📖 James 3:9–10 (NIV) “With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God’s likeness. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.”

Worship when you are afraid.

📖 Psalm 34:4–5 (ESV) “I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears. ⁵ Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.”

📖 1 Samuel 21:10–15 (NIV) “That day David fled from Saul and went to Achish king of Gath. ¹¹ But the servants of Achish said to him, “Isn’t this David, the king of the land? Isn’t he the one they sing about in their dances: “ ‘Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands?’” ¹² David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of Achish king of Gath. ¹³ So he pretended to be insane in their presence; and while he was in their hands he acted like a madman, making marks on the doors of the gate and letting saliva run down his beard. ¹⁴ Achish said to his servants, “Look at the man! He is insane! Why bring him to me? ¹⁵ Am I so short of madmen that you have to bring this fellow here to carry on like this in front of me? Must this man come into my house?”

Worship when you are broke.

📖 Psalm 34:6–7 (ESV) “This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.”

📖 Psalm 34:11–14 (GW) “Come, children, listen to me. I will teach you the fear of the LORD. ¹² Which of you wants a full life? Who would like to live long enough to enjoy good things? ¹³ Keep your tongue from saying evil things and your lips from speaking deceitful things. ¹⁴ Turn away from evil, and do good. Seek peace, and pursue it!”

Worship when you taste God’s goodness.

📖 Psalm 34:8–10 (ESV) “Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! ⁹ Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack! ¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.”

Worship when your heart is broken.

📖 Psalm 34:15–18 (ESV) “The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and His ears toward their cry. ¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. ¹⁷ When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”

Worship when you are no longer condemned.

📖 Psalm 34:19–22 (ESV) “Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. ²⁰ He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. ²¹ Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. ²² The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.”

📖 John 3:17–18 (ESV) “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

📖 Romans 8:1 (ESV) “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

IMPACT

- Imitating Christ
- Meeting Needs
- Proclaiming the Good News
- Assimilating people into the church
- **Celebrating God**
- Teaching the Word of God

When do you find it the most difficult to worship? Can you describe a time when you worshipped God despite the pain you were in? Why do you think worship changes our outlook? Have you tasted Jesus? In what ways has God delivered you? Do you trust that your current situation is not your permanent position? Has God forgiven you?

