

Introduction: Dealing with doubt

- **An ancient story worth remembering**

Jehoshaphat - 2 Chronicles 20

- **A story I can't forget**

Manila - 1988

- **A timeless principle for our times of doubt**

_____ - the antidote for doubt

Praise: The antidote to doubt

Psalm 145 - A Classic Model to Follow

- ❖ **Step #1:** _____ to praise God

*¹ I will exalt You, my God the King;
I will praise Your name forever and ever.*

*²Every day I will praise You
And extol Your name forever and ever.*

Psalm 145:1-2 (NIV 1984)

❖ **Step #2:** _____ **specific evidence of God's greatness**

- ³*Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
His greatness no one can fathom.*
- ⁴*One generation will commend Your works to another;
They will tell of Your mighty acts.*
- ⁵*They will speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
And I will meditate on Your wonderful works.*
- ⁶*They will tell of the power of Your awesome works,
And I will proclaim Your great deeds.*
- ⁷*They will celebrate Your abundant goodness
And joyfully sing of Your righteousness.*

Psalm 145:3-7 (NIV 1984)

❖ **Step #3:** _____ **on God's character and adore Him**

• **He is Good**

- ⁸*The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
Slow to anger and rich in love.*
- ⁹*The LORD is good to all;
He has compassion on all He has made.*

Psalm 145:8-9 (NIV 1984)

(A.W. Tozer: Knowledge of the Holy)

• **He is Sovereign**

- ¹⁰*All You have made will praise You, O LORD;
Your saints will extol You.*
- ¹¹*They will tell of the glory of Your kingdom
And speak of Your might,*
- ¹²*So that all men may know of Your mighty acts
And the glorious splendor of Your kingdom.*
- ^{13a}*Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And Your dominion endures through all generations.*

Psalm 145:10-13a (NIV 1984)

- **He is Faithful**

*^{13b}The LORD is faithful to all His promises
And loving toward all He has made.
¹⁴The LORD upholds all those who fall
And lifts up all who are bowed down.
¹⁵The eyes of all look to You,
And You give them their food at the proper time.
¹⁶You open your hand
And satisfy the desires of every living thing.*

Psalm 145:13b-16 (NIV 1984)

- **He is Righteous**

*¹⁷The LORD is righteous in all His ways
And loving toward all He has made.
¹⁸The LORD is near to all who call on Him,
To all who call on Him in truth.
¹⁹He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him;
He hears their cry and saves them.
²⁰The LORD watches over all who love Him,
But all the wicked He will destroy.*

Psalm 145:17-20 (NIV 1984)

❖ **Step #4: _____ others to praise Him with you**

*²¹My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD.
Let every creature praise His holy name
Forever and ever.*

Psalm 145:21 (NIV 1984)

Life Application Questions:

1. In which of the following areas are you most prone to doubt God's love and plans for your life?
 - God will meet my financial needs.
 - God will guide me concerning big decisions I must make.
 - God will protect my children/loved ones.
 - God will use my life in a significant way.
 - God cares about my life, my dreams, and my future.
 - God will give me power to overcome areas of temptation and struggle.

2. Discuss with your group the boxes you checked and why.

3. How did praising God impact "the battle" in the story of Jehoshaphat in 2 Chronicles 20?

4. What role does praise have in your prayer life currently? What did you learn about the importance of and practice of praising God from this message?

5. What one thing could you do to make praising God more a part of your everyday life?