

PowerPaths—Worship
By Pastor Robby Bradford

Worship is our response to what we value the most.

What keeps us from life-giving worship?

*We substitute something less for God.

(Romans 1:21-23) For although they knew God, they **neither glorified him** as God nor **gave thanks to him**, but their **thinking** became **futile** and their foolish **hearts** were **darkened**. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and **exchanged** the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

*We permit pride to keep us from worship.

(John 12:42-43) Yet at the same time **many** even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they **would not confess** their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; for they **loved praise from men more than praise from God**.

*We let others worship while we watch.

(James 4:8 NLT) **Come close to God**, and God will come close to you.

*We replace worship with traditions.

(Matthew 15:3-9) You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules."

7 WORDS FOR PRAISE

1. Halel – to rave, boast, celebrate...to be clamorously foolish

(Psalm 35:1) I will give you thanks in the great assembly; **among the throngs** I will **praise** you.

2. Yadah – to extend the hand in worship

(Psalm 134.2) **Lift up your hands** to the sanctuary and bless the LORD.

3. Barak – to kneel down

(Psalm 95:6) Come, let us **bow down** in worship, let us **kneel** before the LORD our Maker...

4. Zamar – making music to God with strings

(Psalm 33:2) Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

5. Shabach – to address in a loud tone, to shout, to triumph

(Psalm 47:1) Clap your hands, all you nations; **shout** to God with **cries of joy**.

6. Towdah – to lift hands in adoration; to thank God for things not yet received

(Psalm 50:23) Those who sacrifice **thank offerings** honor me, and to the blameless I will show my salvation.

7. Tehilah – exuberant singing

(Psalm 34:2) Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; **sing praises** to Him with a harp of ten strings.