

CouplesInBloom.com – Praise and Worship

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Knowing the difference between praise and worship provides exclusive intimacy NOT available any other way. As always, the Bible is our intimacy instructor. Both Old and New Testaments differentiate between praise and worship, which many Christians were never taught. Although similar, practicing the differences is life changing. Knowing this truth sets people free ⇒ John 8:32 into deeper levels of intimacy with God, the originator of intimacy; and in marriage, the shadow relationship of intimacy with God.

Biblical definitions of praise: use the hand to revere; rejoice, celebrate; hymn, laudation; kneel, bless God; make music; clearly shine, make a show, be clamorously foolish, rave; address loudly; fame; adulate, adore; commend; glory; applaud.

Biblical definitions of worship: prostrate (bow down); kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand; revere, adore; minister; respect; voluntary piety.

One may argue, “*I* praise and worship God the way *I* want to; it's a *personal* thing.” Yes, it is, and so is **disobedience**. Scripture instructs us to praise and worship God, which blesses both receiver and giver! Resistance or refusal to praise and worship or insisting on one's own way versus Biblically creates problems. GOD designed praise and worship.

Praise addresses **what God does**, and **worship** addresses **who God is**. This explains common difficulties, especially with worship. Worship is more intimate than praise. If our relationship with God has problems, we become very uncomfortable with worship. If our life has problems, our guilt and / or our blaming God for them will hinder our praise.

Praise and worship directly relate to marriage. *A Shadow Named Marriage* © is the centerfold of our *Intimate Anatomy* © workbook which clearly compares relationship with God to marriage on earth. We wish everyone had this one page, a gold mine, which summarizes Biblical intimacy with God and corresponding steps in Christian marriage.

Praise patterns romance (step 9 of 16) and **worship** patterns sex / unity (step 12 of 16).

Romance and sex bloom in Christian marriage when **praise and worship bloom**. As God reached out and saved *us* to become the Bride of Christ, so we use **His same steps** to build intimacy with *our* spouse and bring healing to *their* heart. God made the female brain for wide (detailed) communication, as praise is. He made the male brain for focused communication, as worship is. As women tend to praise God before worshipping Him, so they tend to want romance before sex. As men tend to worship God before praising Him, so they tend to want sex before romance. Praise is how to approach God ⇒ Psalm 100:4. As praise precedes worship (study the Tabernacle) so romance should precede sex. This is correctly emphasized by the wife, and by the Bride of Christ. As worship is central to God ⇒ Revelation 4:8 (“day and night”), so sex is central to the husband. God's pattern works! Withholding worship destroyed Lucifer's relationship with God ⇒ Isaiah 14:13 +.

It is awesome to be loved according to God's pattern by a Christian spouse! If we are married or not, we are still loved by God this way... eternally! There are no singles in Christianity: we are all the Bride of Christ and have an **awesome Lover** like no other.

Be intimate with your lover: who they are and what they do. ♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone