

# THIS IS REVIVAL.



HILLSONG  
CONFERENCE

## WEEK 6 A Heart of Praise

### I Chronicles 16:8-12, Psalm 40:9-10, Ephesians 1:3-14

A heart of praise is ignited by a revelation of God: who He is and what He has done for us. As we praise him, we declare him to others; we promote and testify about His work in our lives through Jesus. A heart of praise is one that has encountered the grace of Christ and is filled with gratitude. When we understand that by Christ's sacrifice alone we are welcomed back into God's presence – our hearts praise him and in His presence we are revived and renewed.

Our praises revive us and they take the similar form of those who have worshipped The Most High God throughout history. When we encounter God and what He has done, we shine, we rave about him, dance, act foolishly; we extend our hands in adoration and acceptance; we shout in triumph; we kneel down or bless him in adoration; we play instruments and sing; and new songs break out of us.

We praise him when we are alone, in our conversations, in our work, in our relationships, and unite together to praise him at church. Our praises mark us and through our praise those around us will see God. Whatever our circumstance, however we feel, if we remember God, face our heart towards him and praise him, He will be with us and we will shine.

As we praise him, He fills our lives with His Spirit and we are freed from the influence of the power of darkness and sin. Our freedom and decision to express God's praise is a spark He will use to ignite the hearts of those around us. He has revived us, and through our praises He will revive, repair, rebuild and restore the broken lives around us. This conference, as we unite together, may our praises spark a miraculous revival that brings His Kingdom to earth.

**CONNECTION AND ACTION** Use these questions to promote conversation and connection.

**ICEBREAKER:** What are you looking forward to most at Hillsong Conference 2013?

- Q:** Think back to when you first started coming to church. What journey did you go on to start to praise God freely, passionately and exuberantly?
- Q:** Outside of a church service, what place does praise have in your walk with God?
- Q:** What is the easiest environment for you to praise God in? The most difficult?
- Q:** How you have experienced revival so far this year? How can you praise God for the work He has done in your life?
- Q:** What is the difference between praise and worship?
- Q:** How do you respond when you encounter times when you may not feel like praising God?

### HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- This is Revival – Hillsong Conference July 1-5 Pick-up cards at weekend services to invite people to Conference Nights (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 6pm/doors open at 5pm and Wednesday 4pm/doors open at 3pm)!

MORE  
OVER  
THE  
PAGE



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**BIBLE AND BELIEF** Use these questions and scriptures to help believers develop a biblical worldview.

- Q. What does "praise" mean? What does it mean to "praise" God?
- Q. Does God need our praise?
- Q. Why is praising God an appropriate thing for a human to do?
- Q. What is the difference between "praise" and "worship"?

**Read: Ephesians 1:3-14**

- Q. Identify what Paul praises God for in this passage?
- Q. Why is praise his response?
- Q. What truths in this passage awaken the urge in you to praise God?

**Read: Hebrews 13:15**

- Q. Why does this passage talk about a "sacrifice" of praise?
- Q. Why is it important to praise God in every circumstance?

**GROWING LEADERSHIP** Use these questions to help people in your group grow as leaders.

- Q: Identify a leader in your life whose ability to praise God in difficult circumstances has impacted your faith and praise.
- Q: What should be the place of praise in the life of a leader?
- Q: As a leader, how is your praise affecting those you lead? Are you an example of praise?
- Q: As people around you experience darkness in their life, how do you encourage them to find and praise God?
- Q: What is your strategy when you encounter hardship to keep your heart turned to God in praise?

**PRAY TOGETHER**

- Pastors Brian & Bobbie Houston
- Hillsong Conference
- Revival in our own lives and across our church.



**NATION BUILDERS.**