



eKids: At home with your family Sun 13th September

Revelation 4:8-11 (Good News Translation)

1 At this point I had another vision and saw an open door in heaven. And the voice that sounded like a trumpet, which I had heard speaking to me before, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this." **2** At once the Spirit took control of me. There in heaven was a throne with someone sitting on it. **3** His face gleamed like such precious stones as jasper and carnelian, and all around the throne there was a rainbow the color of an emerald. **4** In a circle around the throne were twenty-four other thrones, on which were seated twenty-four elders dressed in white and wearing crowns of gold. **5** From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. In front of the throne seven lighted torches were burning, which are the seven spirits of God. **6** Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. Surrounding the throne on each of its sides, were four living creatures covered with eyes in front and behind. **7** The first one looked like a lion; the second looked like a bull; the third had a face like a human face; and the fourth looked like an eagle in flight.

8 Each one of the four living creatures had six wings, and they were covered with eyes, inside and out. Day and night they never stop singing:

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come."

9 The four living creatures sing songs of glory and honor and thanks to the one who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever. When they do so, **10** the twenty-four elders fall down before the one who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives forever and ever. They throw their crowns down in front of the throne and say,

11 "Our Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory, honor, and power. For you created all things, and by your will they were given existence and life."

Understanding the story

As we begin the new series on "Priority of Praise" we start by looking at Revelation. The passage focuses on verses 8-11 but it may be helpful to look at the first 7 verses of the Chapter too. John, who writes Revelation gets an amazing vision of heaven here. He looks and sees God's throne, described in glorious technicolour! Along with God's throne he sees 24 other thrones for "elders" and 4 "living creatures". This is a truly awesome sight and I think we're meant to be blown away by the spectacle of it all. BUT.....

As awesome as the sight of the elders and the creatures are our passage shows us what THEIR priority is. Not just standing around looking awesome and majestic but praising He who is much MORE AWESOME!

😊 God is Holy. God created ALL things.

They never stop singing, they proclaim His Holiness, they fall on their knees, cast their crowns before Him, and they worship Him.

It's a wonderful sight.

It shows us that ONLY God deserves praise, and He deserves it ALL DAY EVERYDAY.

Re-telling the story

John was one of Jesus' disciples. He was in prison on an island for talking to people about Jesus. One day Jesus appeared to him and told him all about what it would be like when He returns and let him see a glimpse of heaven. He showed him pictures like a dream. This is what he saw...

Four creatures who had 6 wings and covered with eyes. Day and night they never stop **praising** Him saying

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God All-powerful,

He was, He is, and He is coming"

These creatures **give praise** to the One who sits on the throne. He is the One who lives for ever and ever. Every time the creatures **praise him** there are 24 elders who bow down before the One who sits on the throne. The elders **praise and worship** him who lives for ever and ever. They put their crowns down before the throne and **praise him** saying

"Our Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory and honour and power.

You made all things, everything existed and was made because you wanted it."

Pebbles & Rocks

This passage shows us that God is the only one who deserves our praise, because He is Holy, amazing and He created EVERYTHING!! We can join in with this praise in all sorts of ways: by singing, dancing(!) and praying thank you prayers.

The picture sheet can be used to help think about things to praise God for, maybe they can circle the pictures/things they REALLY like?

On the other sheet they can cut and stick the Earthworm or Elephant onto the Psalm colouring page – Praise God for Everything (things that begin with E!).

As you walk this week maybe get them to point out something BIG to praise him for (A tall tree, a massive truck, rain clouds) and something tiny to praise Him for (a bug, a flower, an acorn, eyelashes!)

Boulders

Think a little about WHY we are to praise Him. He is THE creator. We can't give him anything because it already belongs to Him! Maybe think about the things you like and enjoy doing that you can praise him for.

One way of doing this is the A to Z game, fill in the sheet with things you think are great in nature, in your family, in your school, on your TV, and in your fridge(!) and praise God for them by praying, making up a silly song or just sticking it on your wall to remind you of how God is worth our praise!

RipRap

Praise and worship are for God alone, but WHY? - everything else is a *created thing* but He is the creator

Is praising God just about singing? – it's about *actions not just words* (notice how the elders fall on their knees). So *how we live* can be how we praise God every day – maybe think about what that might look like....

Praising Him is a *together* thing too – why do you think this is and how can we do it whilst in our current situation?

Prayer

Thank God for who He is and for His creation.

Ask Him to help you find different ways to praise Him.

Say sorry for the times when you might worship other things.

Thank God that He gives us music and voices to praise Him with!

Songs

Why not have a look at some of these songs/videos as a way of praising God?

Hopefully you'll enjoy some of them.

Some are good for our younger groups, others that RipRap might enjoy (I hope!)

King of Me (Rend Collective) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ks6zl2hL2Uk>

Feels Good (Rend Collective) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJxVHzARMmE>

This Little Light of Mine (Listener Kids) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKkbIZtqhyQ>

City on a Hill (Nick and Becky Drake) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITEadEftdnM>

Halls of Heaven (Jesus Culture) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klN0DNDcjlw>

Sing wherever I go (We are the Kingdom) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmkVyBkDQME>