SERMON NOTES

[In appreciation of our Praise Band and other praise-inspiring groups in our church, this week's questions focus around the power of praise.]

My

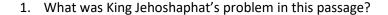
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Story		
1.	Can you think of a compliment you've received recently that really lifted your spirits? If so, what made it special?	
2.	On a scale of 1 (terrible) to 10 (terrific), how well would you say you do at acknowledging the actions and significance of other people and expressing your appreciation?	
	How would you rate yourself in regularly remembering to praise God?	
	What might you do to bring your scores up a bit?	

3. What would you say is the difference between praise and thanksgiving?

Which of the two seems to take priority in your comments to others and/or your prayer life . . . or would you say they are about equal?

Digging Deeper

Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-13.



What was the threat level?

What was his initial response?

2. Based on Jehoshaphat's prayer, what emotions do you think he was feeling?

How would you have felt in his situation? Would you have done anything differently?

Read 2 Chronicles 20:14-30.

3. Who did Jehoshaphat designate to lead Judah's army against their fierce enemies? What do you think of his battle strategy?

4.	Judah's victory?	
	What were the immediate results?	
	What were the long-term results?	
Taking It Home		
1.	What do you think is the lesson we should learn from this account of King Jehoshaphat?	
2.	Our church is blessed with an abundance of inspiring praise singers and musicians, pray-ers, and men and women of faith. We should never take them for granted. What can you do to affirm their gifts and their value to our church body?	
	(And since this is the last scheduled meeting before summer break, you might also acknowledge other members' gifts and contributions to your group.)	