

Preparation for Praise

Charles Stanley

I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 4.

B. We need to prepare to praise God.

II. We must know the truth to praise God.

A. One must be in the Word of God.

B. A person cannot praise someone he does not know.

C. When we understand God, there is something in us that wants to praise Him.

III. We must have the right spirit.

A. Jesus Christ is Lord, so we must not live in rebellion. (Philippians 2)

B. Genuine praise is the result of the overflow of the Holy Spirit in our spirit.

IV. We must repent of known sin in our lives. (Hebrews 4:13)

A. Sin acts as a barrier between a person and God.

B. The heart must be right.

V. We must have a right relationship with other people.

VI. We must lay aside our negative critical spirits.

A. Our hearts must be centered upon God.

B. When we praise, we ought to expect God to do something exciting in our lives.

VII. We must lay aside our hang ups.

VIII. We must love God.

IX. Our life must be Christ-centered.

Application questions:

1. Why do worship lyrics matter?

2. How would you respond to someone who says that there are no requirements to meet God in prayer because of His love for us?

3. What does it look like to have a Christ-centered life?
