

# DISCIPLESHIP TODAY

A Discipleship Center Publication – June 2019



## THIS MONTH'S FOCUS – Praising God

### And So the Story Goes....

Twenty-one year old John Wesley came from a Christian home, and he was gifted with a keen mind and good looks. Yet in those days he was a bit snobbish and sarcastic. One night, however, something happened that set in motion a change in Wesley's heart. While speaking with a porter, he discovered that the poor fellow had only one coat and lived in such impoverished conditions that he didn't even have a bed. Yet he was an unusually happy person, filled with gratitude to God. Wesley thoughtlessly joked about the man's misfortunes. "And what else do you thank God for?" he said with a touch of sarcasm. The porter smiled, and in the spirit of meekness replied with joy, "I thank Him that He has given me my life and being, a heart to love Him, and above all a constant desire to serve Him!" Deeply moved, Wesley recognized that this man knew the meaning of true thankfulness.

Many years later, in 1791, John Wesley lay on his deathbed at the age of 88. Those who gathered around him realized how well he had learned the lesson of praising God in every circumstance. Despite Wesley's extreme weakness, he began singing the hymn, "I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath."

### They Said It:



"Look at the very birds of the earth – how they shame us! ... Watch them when they are singing... How they throw themselves into the music... How the wing vibrates, the throat pulsates, and every part of their body rejoices to assist the strain! This is the way in which we ought to praise God." – Charles Spurgeon

"If anyone would tell you the shortest, surest way to all happiness and all perfection, he must tell you to make it a rule to thank and praise God for everything that happens to you. For it is certain that whatever seeming calamity happens to you, if you thank and praise God for it, you turn it into a blessing." – William Law

"One day all Christians will join in a doxology and sing God's praises with perfection. But even today, individually and corporately, we are not only to sing the doxology, but to be the doxology." – Francis Schaeffer

"Praise is boasting about what you enjoy." – C.S. Lewis

### Readings From The Scriptures:

Day 1 – Exodus 15:1-2

Day 2 – I Chronicles 16:8-11

Day 3 – Isaiah 25:1

Day 4 – Luke 1:67-75

Day 5 – Luke 23:46-47

Day 6 – Ephesians 1:3-6

Day 7 – Revelation 19:5

### Try This Memory Verse:

"I will extol the Lord at all times; His praise will always be on my lips."  
(Psalm 34:1)



### News & Notes . . . .

The last few months included some terrific events and happenings:

- **Discipleship Day 2019** (April) - held at Auburn COTN. God worked through workshops, resources and fellowship. We also set a new attendance record. Many thanks to all the presenters and workers – we couldn't have done it without you!
- **Upstate NY District Assembly**, Ed was elected as the District Sunday School & Discipleship Chairperson. The SDMI Leadership Team is a terrific group of people to work with, and we look forward to what God wants to do thru us in days to come.
- **District Laypersons Retreat** (May) - Ed was privileged to be the guest speaker for this event held in the Adirondacks. God moved in many wonderful ways. Special thanks to Gloria Lanning for this opportunity!
- **It's A Guy Thing 2019** (June) - Men's event held at Auburn COTN in which many benefited as God worked through each presentation and testimony. Tom Klein did a great job in organizing this special day!

Would you like to have a TDC workshop at your church or in your home? Check the TDC website for workshop ideas on such topics as Bible reading and study, knowing and doing God's will, discovering your SHAPE for serving God, sharing your faith, and many other topics: [www.discipleshipcenter.org](http://www.discipleshipcenter.org).

This edition of *Discipleship Today* is dedicated to the memory of **Paula Durgala**, a long-time member of Auburn COTN and supporter of TDC, who passed away on Good Friday. When we first arrived in Auburn, Paula commented to us about TDC – "That's quite a dream you have there!" She was behind us all the way, and we have been so grateful!



For workshop information, or to become a sponsor of TDC, please see our website at [www.discipleshipcenter.org](http://www.discipleshipcenter.org) or you may contact us at: **Ed Darling**, Founding Director, 3356 E. Genesee Street Road, Auburn, NY 13021; [edarlin1@gmail.com](mailto:edarlin1@gmail.com) // [dcentercny60@gmail.com](mailto:dcentercny60@gmail.com) // (315) 256-6548.

# Praise for God by Bible Book

U R E A C T S E D Z S C W B U M N C  
 V V E G X W K G T N I N E V J Q M L  
 Q P E V E Q I O A S E L H B R Q L E  
 S B G R E S L I C H E R T B K P K E  
 R N B K A L H N E K S O T M H O P C  
 U E A I J T A M N L Q S A F J E F D  
 H Q A M N E I T T W S L M N K U F G  
 N H W I O A Y R I E X O D U S J K F  
 N J R F H R H E Q O J P L E P T O K  
 U O U N Y C U T D A N B P P D D Q B  
 C S O D P D L E I N A D A H O C D P  
 F G I M G H F P P H Q L C E V Q U F  
 F P T S W E T Q S Y W M U S X C W N  
 C P G D E I S V A V B M T I M H N P  
 E O U V F N V Z L K U K K A B A H Q  
 W J K V F T E C M I C E Y N Q T X X  
 W X Z H L G S G S Z T J R S O Z C P  
 S U C H R O N I C L E S Y G L C X A

ACTS  
 DANIEL  
 GENESIS  
 ISAIAH  
 LUKE  
 PETER  
 ROMANS

CHRONICLES  
 EPHESIANS  
 HABAKKUK  
 JOB  
 MATTHEW  
 PSALMS

CORINTHIANS  
 EXODUS  
 HEBREWS  
 JUDGES  
 NEHEMIAH  
 REVELATION

