

AS GOD GRADUATES GRATITUDE—PRAISE!

The gratitude you discover unlocks the “destiny praise” hidden in you and a future you hadn’t imagined.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ For the past while we’ve been discussing how exaltation is an entry point to prayer. We’ve seen examples in the Bible where both **salvation** and **deliverance** from pain led to praise of the Almighty God. In each case, there was progress in the life of the praiser in the context of God’s greater story of redemption in human history.
- ❖ This leads to how we locate our praise from **gratitude**. David’s story can help us discover this.
David approached God with a stunned sense of gratitude.
- ❖ Our text in 2 Samuel 7:18 begins with David asking God, “Who am I, Sovereign Lord, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far?”
- ❖ It’s common to read this and attribute great humility to David, but there’s a deeper reality to consider.
- ❖ David was a shepherd boy who loved God. His ancestry wasn’t “pure”; he came from the line of a mix of Jew, Canaanite, and Moabite. And while his forefathers—Nahshon, Boaz, and Jesse—were men of standing, they did not have national significance like the Judges or prophets of the Old Testament. In all, David’s family were just “good guys” at best.
- ❖ That is why when Saul offered him his daughter, David asked, “Who am I, and what is my family or my father’s clan in Israel, that I should become the king’s son-in-law?” (1 Sam. 18:18).
- ❖ The words expressed by David showed how stunned he was. Grateful as he was to God for a shot at being king, he had good reason to be concerned about succession in the near term, his own unfolding story validating this (see 2 Sam. 13, 18:9-17, and 1 Kings 2:13-25). Yet before all these events, God promised to establish the throne and kingdom of David’s son forever.
- ❖ But it didn’t stop there. God told this mere human that His Messiah would spring from David’s lineage. Stunning!
- ❖ Realistically, David’s background didn’t project his place in life and now in destiny. So, clearly God was doing this for His glory, not David’s. When anyone comes to such a realization, they discover an uncommon, deep gratitude.
David discovered a “destiny praise” in the refrain of Israel’s great leaders of the past.
- ❖ David exclaimed in 2 Samuel 7:22, “How great you are, Sovereign Lord! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears.”
- ❖ To be ‘Sovereign’ means God is unrivaled, unhindered, and unaccountable to any other force. The sense that this Supreme Being would be mindful of a human being was perhaps something David had heard of before but had not experienced.
- ❖ To realize God was dealing with Him in the manner He dealt with the great forebears of Israel was shocking. The **stories** of God’s Sovereign intervention in Israel in the past became **reality** to David in this present mighty work (v. 23).
- ❖ In his praise, David acknowledged that Israel’s successes over time were really God’s expression of His character through them rather than merely equipping a nation.

KEY SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 7:18-29
(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

- ❖ David could see God’s glory in Israel’s past and present, and it attracted a different kind of praise, one that wasn’t just a “now” praise but a “forever” praise.
- ❖ It was a destiny praise that reached back to the expressions of Israel’s past heroes and extended forward to her eternal purpose of being God’s redemption vehicle for humanity.
David’s praise recognized a future for him in God’s plan that he had never imagined.
- ❖ “And now, Lord God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised, so that your name will be great forever...” (v.v. 25-26).
- ❖ After being anointed by Samuel, David becoming king would be a great, but feasible, transformation. But aligning in this way with the self-expression of the eternal God—that could never be foreseeable without revelation.
- ❖ “Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your covenant is trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant” (v. 28).
- ❖ It’s useful to point out that David wasn’t just building castles in the air. His dream was built on the truth of the Word of Almighty God. Failure wasn’t an option. Not because of David’s attributes, but because of the sure Word of God concerning him.
- ❖ “Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, Sovereign Lord, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever” (v. 30).
- ❖ Here’s a very instructive posture when God reveals these things. David didn’t cling to the promise; he released it to God from whom it came. Releasing it is what removed any limits because it passed from David’s limited control back to God’s infinite control.
- ❖ When God has a plan, He makes it happen in spite of us because we mean a great deal to God.
- ❖ We’re part of a greater “something”. Start by thinking a little more about what that is. Then, find your reason to be grateful, and let God graduate that gratitude to praise.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Read what the prophet told David in 2 Samuel 7:8-16 and discuss what was spoken about David’s past, present, and future. What does this reveal to you about God? Has God ever revealed such things to you?
2. “When God has a plan, He makes it happen in spite of us.” Discuss this sentence in the context of some of the events that unfolded in David’s life (i.e., 2 Sam. 13, 18:9-17, 1 Kings 2:13-25). What does this reveal to you about a Word spoken by the Lord?

PRAYER TIME
 No Word from You, Lord, will ever fail (Luke 1:37).
 Speak in my life, Lord, and may Your servant hear.

Start-up: When expressing gratitude, do you do more than just say “thank you”? If so, what are other things that you do?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

- ✓ (Reminds me/Confirms)
- 💡 (New idea)
- 🗨️ (Think about)
- 👉 (Do this)
- ❤️ (Speaks to my heart)
- ➡️ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
 CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
 Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

PRAYER FOCUS: F. S. Outreach: Life Groups, personal witnessing, lifestyle evangelism, community work.

24-hour Prayer: Daily;

Daily Devotions: Monday - Friday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;

Departmental Prayer: Every Thursday (please check schedule)

Corporate Prayer: Every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.).

Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 Phone Access: 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give

For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



COUPLES PRAYER BRUNCH

Couples are warmly invited to join us for a sweet time of fellowship, connection, and prayer. Come and be refreshed, encouraged, and strengthened together!

Registration deadline: Saturday, April 11th, 2026.

Date: Saturday, April 18th, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

To register, contact Bob and Kim at stayconnectedmsq@gmail.com.

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

MARCH 1, 2026

Faith **SANCTUARY**

Feed Canada to Feed the World

Reaching the World Through Prayer

~ 2026 ~

Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

"Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, Sovereign Lord, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever."

2 Samuel 7:29 (NIV)



FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.

(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.

(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled

(see ushers for information)

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