Connect

Rate yourself on an “expressiveness” scale: (1=“restrained” 4=“exuberant”) Give an example of the way this shows up in your everyday life.

Apply

What is one thing you are taking away from the sermon?

Optional Questions

▲ Compare your expressiveness in a gathering with fans (of your favorite team or musical group) with your expressiveness in Sunday worship. Is there a difference? Explain.

■ Review the four forms of biblical praise highlighted in the sermon:

- **Halal**- Praising God with unhindered passion and joy (ex. Jewish wedding)
- **Shabach**- Praise as a bold shout or declaration (ex. parent speaking into next generation)
- **Barak**- Praise with awe, honor (ex. bowing in presence of a king)
- **Tehillah**- unrehearsed, spontaneous response of praise from the heart (ex. surprising a loved one with an “I love you”)

over...
Which of these forms of praise have you tasted? What was it like?

Which do you find unfamiliar, or even a bit threatening? Explain

What do you think about the concept of biblical praise as a “risk”? Are you ready to take a risk in worship? Explain

Now What?

What do you believe God is saying to you today? What will you do about it?

Scripture: Psalm 145: 1-10, 21

1 I will extol you, my God and King,
    and bless (barak) your name forever and ever.
2 Every day I will bless (barak) you
    and praise (halal) your name forever and ever.
3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised (halal),
    and his greatness is unsearchable.
4 One generation shall commend (shabach) your works to another,
    and shall declare your mighty acts.
5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
    and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
6 They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
    and I will declare your greatness.
7 They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
    and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
8 The Lord is gracious and merciful,
    slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
9 The Lord is good to all,
    and his mercy is over all that he has made.
10 All your works shall give thanks (yadah) to you, O Lord,
    and all your saints shall bless (barak) you!
21 …My mouth will speak the praise (tehilla) of the Lord,
    and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.