

### **Vision and Values: Extravagant Praise**

Encountering God together – bringing others into that encounter

#### **Encountering God in Praise and Worship**

Why is praise important? Does God need it? Psalm 147 'It is fitting'  
It gives God His place in our lives. It gives true perspective on life and what is possible. It is not dependant on feelings or circumstances but on who God is. Praise counters the spirit of despair. We are called out of darkness to declare His praises (1 Ptr 2:9). Develop a pattern of praise in your life – start the day; use the Word (esp. Psalms) make good habits; give thanks; sing songs (new songs)

**Praise brings us into the realm of God's activity** (Father always at work etc). Opens our eyes to see what He's doing.

#### **Experiencing him, engaging with him, enjoying him.**

Worship – revelation and response.

**Extravagant** = immoderate, exceeding the bounds of reason, lavish.

Revelation – in Christ, God has lavished his grace upon us.

#### **Extravagant praise is a response to the God's wonder and works**

Extravagant Praise comes from a heart that has learned to appreciate the Lord (from the heart, not mere performance).

#### **A Call to Extravagant Praise – Psalm 103:1-2**

Our whole being – in response to vs 3-5.

#### **An Example of Extravagant Adoration – John12:1-7**

Forgiven much, loved much, beyond reason – broke the jar (Mk 14)

Costly – maybe equiv. to £10k

#### **The Power of Extravagant Praise – Acts 16:25-26**