

Part 5: Towdah

August 31 & Sept. 1, 2019 Brian Behrends, Creative Pastor

Psalm 145:13b-21

NEW LIVING TRANSLATION (NLT)

The LORD always keeps his promises; he is gracious in all he does.

- ¹⁴ The LORD helps the fallen and lifts those bent beneath their loads.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you in hope; you give them their food as they need it.
- ¹⁶ When you open your hand, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing.
- ¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in everything he does; he is filled with kindness.
- ¹⁸ The LORD is close to all who call on him, yes, to all who call on him in truth.
- ¹⁹ He grants the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cries for help and rescues them.
- ²⁰ The LORD protects all those who love him, but he destroys the wicked.
- ²¹I will praise the LORD, and may everyone on earth bless his holy name forever and ever.

towdah (toe-dah)

An extension of the hand. Thanksgiving. A confession. A sacrifice of praise. Thanksgiving for things <u>not yet received</u>. A choir of worshipers.

Towdah is not a <u>denial</u> of the situation you're in.

It's the acknowledgment that <u>God is bigger</u> than your situation.

Jonah 2:9-10

But I, with shouts of grateful praise *(towdah)* will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, 'Salvation comes from the LORD.'"

And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Psalm 9:10

Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

Philippians 1:6

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Small Group Questions

- 1) What's a promise God has made that gives you hope?
- 2) Is there anything that has kept you from praising God in the past? What was it?
- 3) What's one thing you could *towdah* God for this week—thanking him in advance for something not yet received?
- 4) Which of the Hebrew praise words in this series has been most helpful or interesting for you? Why? Which one has been most challenging?
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?