

Part 4: Barak August 24 & 25, 2019 Grant Fishbook, Lead Teaching Pastor

A Call to Worship • Psalm 95:1-7

¹Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. ²Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

³ For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.
⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.
⁵ The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; ⁷ for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

barak (baw-*rahk*)

to kneel; to bless God (as an act of adoration); to praise; to salute; to thank

Barak embodies the notion of kneeling before God, of blessing and adoring him, of recognizing one's position before him.

- Darren Whitehead, Holy Roar

Barak is...

A posture of adoration and honor — our worship can bless God!

¹¹ May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him.

¹⁵ Long may he live!

May gold from Sheba be given him.

May people ever pray for him

and bless him (barak) all day long. - Psalm 72:11,15

A posture of humility and vulnerability

⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel (*barak*) before the Lord our Maker;
⁷ for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. – Psalm 95:6-7

Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. **-2 Corinthians 12:9b-10**

A posture of gratitude

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise (*barak*) his name. - Psalm 100:4

A posture of eternal preparation

Revelation 7

The Wrong Question

How was worship today?

The Right Question

How was my worship today?

Small Group Questions

- 1) Did you go to the fair this year? Why or why not?
- 2) What's your favorite personal way to worship? Music? Art? Prayer? Nature?
- 3) What does the posture of kneeling do to your heart? Why do you believe God would ask us to kneel in his presence?
- 4) What can you express gratitude to God for today? In what way does your gratitude bless God?
- 5) What would keep you from kneeling and "lifting your eyes" to Jesus today? Can you confess and repent from whatever it is that would keep your eyes down? Do that now!
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?