

## THE LOCAL CHURCH

### Our Services: Singing & Music-The Power Of Praise

#### I. How are we to do this?

- A. We are singing unto Him-He is our audience-**Ps149:1-5**-Sing unto the Lord a new song; **Ps27:6**-I will sing, yea I will sing praises unto the Lord; **Hb2:11-KJ**-I will declare your name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church (assembly) will I sing praise unto you; **Ps95:1**-Let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms (singing); **Co3:16**-Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom teaching & admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord
1. The music team is not singing to you-They are leading us in singing to the Lord
- B. You are supposed to be ministering unto the Lord for yourself-**Ps27:6**-Now shall mine head be lifted above mine enemies round about me: therefore I will offer in his tabernacles sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea I will sing praises unto the Lord; **Ps95:1**-Let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms
1. Nobody can do this for you-It's like an offering; If you didn't give in the offering you didn't worship the Lord with your substance; If you don't sing for yourself then you're not worshiping the in song
  2. Everybody should be singing-Your time to minister unto the Lord in song-Not observation, but participation-**Ezra 3:11**-And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because he is good, for his mercy endures forever. And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the Lord because foundation of the house of the Lord was laid
  3. We are supposed to be singing out loud-**Ps149:5**-Let them sing aloud upon their beds
- C. You're singing to Him in praise and worship is an act of your will and has nothing to do with how you feel-**Ps138:2**-I will worship toward your holy temple and praise your name for your lovingkindness and for your truth: for you have magnified your word above all your name
1. Both praise and worship are an act of your will, not an emotional response-It's not I feel something so I worship and praise, but rather I worship and praise because I choose to; My feelings are not the igniter of my praise worship my will is
    - a. Praise is an act of your will-**Ps7:17**-I will praise the Lord according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High; **Ps9:1**-I will praise you, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth (recount, celebrate) all they marvelous works; I will be glad and rejoice in you: I will sing praise to your name, O thou Most high; **Ps21:3**-Be exalted, Lord, in thine own strength: so we will sing and praise your power; **Ps28:7**-The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoices; and with my song will I praise him; **Ps57:7**-My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise; **Ps104:33**-I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being; **Hb2:12**-Saying, I will declare your name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto you
    - b. Worship is an act of your will-**Ps5:7**-But as for me, I will come into your house in the multitude of your mercy and in your fear will I worship toward your holy temple; **Ps132:7**-We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool
  2. You can praise and worship independent of your feelings-**Ps43:5**-Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God
  3. The sacrifice of praise-Sometimes my flesh is the victim in my praise-**Hb13:15**-By him let us offer the sacrifice (victim) of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name

- D. This is a time of joy and thanksgiving-There's should be a lot of life in this-**Ps95:1**-*Let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms (singing, song)*
- E. Corporately and in unity our hearts, minds and mouths are directed towards the Lord-What makes this portion powerful has more to do with the hearts of the people praising than it does with the people leading the songs
- F. Keep the world's junk out of this-We have to continually renew our mind to this reality because we don't want to bring the world's junk into the church; What we're are doing in here should have little to no resemblance to what the world does in a concert
  - 1. The more of the world's junk we have in this, the less anointed it will be
  - 2. Our singing in praise/worship is to minister to the Lord NOT to entertain you-This is not a concert-Concerts are people performing for people, we are singing unto the Lord; This is about the Lord NOT the people

## II. What kind of songs should we sing?

- A. God should be the focus of our songs-We're singing his praise, we're singing unto him, we're focusing on him, we're magnifying Him, we're exalting Him-**Ps149:1,6**-*Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints...Let the high praises (exaltation) of God be in their mouth; Ps69:30-I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving*
  - 1. To sing His praise is to focus on Him-Praise-Bless, kneel down, glory, boast, celebrate, sing, give thanks
  - 2. We should not be the focus of our songs-Us, our feelings, our problems, our struggles should not be the focus of our singing, but rather the Lord and His goodness, love, mercy, power; When you and your struggles are the center of the song it ceases to be singing praise and worship to Him
- B. Our songs should be scriptural-They should agree with the Word and the principles the word teaches-**Ps119:54**-*Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage; Jn4:24*-*God is a spirit; and they that worship must worship him in spirit and in truth*
  - 1. We shouldn't sing about-My fears if the Word says we've been delivered from fear; How unclean we are if the word says we're clean, how broken we are if the word says we're whole, how weak we are
  - 2. We don't sing our feelings, we sing the Word-We sing the Word by faith
- C. We sing songs of declaration-We can sing declaration of the Word of God-There's a difference when you lift your voice to sing, it's another measure of faith and you tap into something else-**Is48:20**-*Go ye forth Babylon flee you from the Chaldean with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob*
  - 1. This ministers to the Lord because faith pleases Him-**Hb11:6**-*Without faith it is impossible to please God; Mt8:10*-*When Jesus heard it, he marveled (admire-wonder mingled with pleasing emotions), and said to them that followed, verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel*

## III. Praise and Worship-Singing and music is one avenue by which we praise and worship God and in no way can should singing and music described the totality of praise and worship-Not all praise and worship involves singing and instruments

- A. Praise can be expressed through different avenues
  - 1. Singing in praise is only one avenue by which we praise-**Ps28:7**-*The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoices; and with my song will I praise him; Ps69:30-I will praise the name of God with a song*
    - a. Praise can be sung-**2Ch23:13**-*All the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments of music, and such as taught to sing praise; Ps106:12*-*They believed his word and sang His praise*

2. Praise can be declared-You can declare His praise without any music playing at all-**Is42:12**-*Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare his praise in the islands*
3. Praise with a loud voice-You can praise God with a loud voice and no music-**2Ch20:19**-*To praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high; Lk19:37*-*Began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice*
4. Praise can be done with instruments-**1Ch23:5**-*Four thousand praised with the Lord with instruments- Ps71:22*-*Praise the with the psaltery*
5. Praise can be done through thanksgiving-**Hb13:15**-*By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name*

B. What is praise?

1. Praise is celebration-We are celebrating the goodness of God, the faithfulness of God-**Lk19:37**-*The whole multitude of disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen; Ps98:4*-*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the earth: make a loud noise and rejoice and sing praise; Ps9:2*-*I will be glad and rejoice in you: I will sing praise to your name O most High 14 That I may show forth all your praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in your salvation*
  - a. H1984-Halal-Causatively to celebrate; A.Hebrew-Picture of a man with his arms raised looking at a great sight; A looking toward something; G2127-Eulogeo-Celebrate with praises
2. Praise is exaltation-We are making much of Him and seeing Him bigger and greater than anything else **Ps44:8**-*In God we boast all the day long, and praise your name; Rm15:11*-*Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; and laud him all you people*
  - a. H1984-Halal-To shine; hence to make a show; to boast (To speak with laudable pride of a person; Magnify, exalt); H3034-Yadah-Laud (exalting by praise) G136-Ainos-Laudatory discourse; G1867-Epaineo-Laud, commend, approve; G1868-Epainos-Laudation
3. Praise is thanksgiving-This can be done without or without music and singing-**Hb13:15**-*By him let us offer the sacrifice (victim) of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name Ez3:11*-*They sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because he is good, for his mercy endures for ever toward Israel; Neh12:26*-*Songs of praise and thanksgiving to God; 1Ch23:20*-*To stand every morning to thank and praise; Ps35:18*-*I will give thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people; Ps100:4*-*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name*
  - a. H8426-Towdah-Sacrifice of praise, thanks offering; Thanksgiving in songs, hymn of praise; G133-Ainesis-Praise, thank offering H8416-Tehillah-Thanksgiving
4. Praise is singing and music-**2Ch30:21**-*Praise the Lord day by day, singing with loud instruments unto the Lord; 2Ch20:21*-*He appointed singers unto the Lord that they should praise; 2Ch29:30*-*And they sang praise with gladness of heart and bowed their heads and worshipped; Ps149:1*-*Sing unto the Lord a new song and his praise in the congregation of the saints; Ps98:4*-*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice and sing praise;*
  - a. H2167-Zamar-To make music, accompanied by the voice; hence to celebrate in song and music; give praise, sing forth praises, psalms; Sing praise [(45 times-Praise (26), Sing (16)); G134-Aineo-Praise, extol, sing praise in honor to God; G5214-Hymneo-Sing praise; H8416-Tehillah-Laudation; specifically (concretely) a hymn; Song of praise
5. Praise is adoration-Worship is actually a form of praise, praise is a form or worship-**2Ch7:3**-*They bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the Lord saying For he is good; for his mercy endures forever; Ps138:2*-*I will worship toward your holy temple, and praise thy name for they loving-kindness and for your truth: for you have magnified your word above your name; Dn4:34*-*I blessed the Most high and praised and honored him that lives forever; 2Ch29:30*-*They sang praise with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped*

- a. *H1288-Barak*-To kneel; By implication to bless God (as an act of adoration); *A.Hebrew*- Bend the knee to kneel in respect; Bend the knee to give honor to another; *H3034-Yadah*-Literally to use (that is, hold out) the hand; Especially to revere or worship (with extended hands)-Adoration-Profound reverence, external homage accompanied with the highest reverence; *Honor*; *H7624-Shebach*-Adjulate, adore; *G1391-Doxa*-Honor-Good opinion concerning one, resulting in praise, honor, and glory; *H8426-Towdah*-Extension of the hand, that is by implication avowal or usually adoration; *H8416-Tehillah*-Adoration

### C. What is worship?

1. Bow in reverence, respect and adoration-*H5456,5457-Saw-gad*-Prostrate oneself in homage (reverence, respect); Fall to knees with the face to the ground (Worship 12 times, Fall down 4 times); *G4352-Proskyneo*-To fawn or crouch to, that is prostrate one's self in homage (do reverence to, adore): In NT by kneeling or prostration to do homage to one or make obeisance, whether in order to express respect or to make supplication; Adorer; *H7812-Shachac*-Depress, that is, prostrate (especially in reflexively in homage to royalty or God): - Bow down, crouch, fall down flat, do obeisance, do reverence, worship;
2. To revere, to fear, to respect, to honor-*G4576-Sebo*-To revere, to worship, adore; *G4573-Sebazomai*-To fear; *G4574-Sebasma*-Whatever is honored, object of worship; *G1391-Doxa*-Honor-Good opinion concerning one, resulting in praise, honor, and glory
3. To serve-*H5647-Abad*-Work; by implication to serve, till; Be bondmen; enslave ; Servant, worshipper; Work for another serve another by labor; Serve as subjects; To work, to be worked; *A.Hebrew*-Work performed or made for another out of obligation, requirement, or gratitude; To provide a service to another (Worshippers 5 times); *G3000-Latreuo*-To serve
4. Lip service-If you're not living a life of honor, submitted to God, reverencing Him and respecting Him out there, then no matter how much you "worship" in here is just lip service-***Mt15:8-They honor me with the lips, but their heart is far from me***
  - a. Many like the way the music in church makes them feel, but they aren't interested in living devoted to God when the music is over

## IV. What are the results of our singing in praise and singing in worship?

### A. When we sing to the Lord in praise and worship He responds

1. When we honor with our praise and worship He honors us-***1Sm2:30-For them that honor me I will honor***
  - a. How does God honor us?-With revelation, quickenings, freedom, deliverance and healing can come
2. When we draw near to him corporately by singing in praise and in worship, He draws nigh unto us-When He gets close to you all kinds of good things happen-***Js4:8-Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you***

### B. When we sing unto the Lord in praise and worship He inhabits our praises-***Ps22:3-But you art holy, O thou that inhabits the praises of Israel***

1. Inhabit-Strong's-Dwell, sit down, remain, settle, abide, have one's abode; *W1828*-To live or dwell in, Occupy a place of settled residence I.E. Wild beasts inhabit the forest, Fish inhabit the ocean, lakes, and rivers, Men inhabit cities houses
2. Pray vs. Praise-When we pray, we come into God's presence, but we praise He comes into our presence
3. God's presence doesn't fall where the most talented singers and players are-His presence falls where they yielded worshipping honoring hearts are

### C. The cooperate faith and unity of singing in praise and worship releases God's presence. God's blessing, the life of God in our midst-***Acts2:1-There were all in one accord (harmony of minds and wills) in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the house they were sitting***

1. Our singing in praise unifies us and God commands the blessing and life-***Ps133:1-Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like precious ointment (references the***

*anointing) upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aarons beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; 3 As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing (Pr10:22), even life (life-power) forever more.*

## V. There's great power in singing in praise and worship

- A. It is a good thing to sing praises to the Lord-There's benefits that come from doing this-**Ps92:1**-*It is a good (prosperity, welfare, benefit) thing to give unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto your name, O most high*
1. God didn't command us to sing praise to Him because He needs is ego stroked-It blesses Him, but it benefits us
- B. Your heart, mind and mouth the three most important territories of your life-**Rm8:6**-*To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace; Pr18:21-Death and life are in the power of the tongue; Pr4:23-Keep your heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life*
1. Singing in praise and worship requires the heart, mind and mouth
  2. Singing in praise and worship yields all three of these over to the Lord-When we sing in praise and worship our hearts, minds, and mouths are turned towards God and yielded over to Him
  3. When we sing in praise and worship we are yielding to God and resisting the devil-This one powerful way to shut him out of your life-**Js4:7**-*Submit to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you*
    - a. When you're engaged in praise and worship you're not yielding to the enemy in any capacity
    - b. If the enemy can't find place in your mind, mouth or heart he can't get defeat you in your life-**Eph4:26**-*Give no place to the devil*
  4. What makes this powerful?-Not the singing, but the focus of the heart, mind and mouth
- C. When we are singing in praise and worship we have turned towards Him and are looking at Him
1. God's face shines with the full degree of his glory and goodness (Moses couldn't see His face)-It's a life force that radiates the strongest out of God's face-**Pr16:15**-*In the light of the king's countenance is life*
  2. Where God's face shines there is life, peace and grace-**Nm6:24**-*The Lord bless you, and keep you: The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace*
  3. The sun and moon-**Ps84:9**-*The Lord is a sun*-There's revelation hidden in creation-The side of the moon that is not facing the sun is cold and dark while the side that faces the moon radiates with light and warmth
  4. You can only absorb and reflect what you face-If you're heart, mind and mouth are turned away from the Lord, not looking at the Lord you can't absorb and reflect what emanates from him and you get dull, dark, weak and dumb-**Rm8:6**-*To be carnally minded is death*
  5. No matter what I'm facing if I'll turn my face to His face, then in His face I'll absorb and reflect, receive and bear everything I need to overcome what is facing me-**Ps34:5**-*The looked unto him and were lightened (Shine, radiant, to beam); With what? With what they looked at*
    - a. H1984-Halal-A.Hebrew-Picture of a man with his arms raised looking at a great sight; A looking toward something; A moving towards something; To shine or shining-To cause a shining of one by praising or giving thanks to another; The glistening oils of the plant
  6. Numbers 21:8-9-If you want to live you MUST, you HAVE TO look at Him-When a person gets bit by a snake there's pain, swelling, redness, difficulty breathing, vomiting, nausea; That's a lot to look at, see and feel; If they center up on their symptoms, the pain, what they see, how they feel they'll die; But all they have to do is just look to the serpent on the pole and if they do they'll live
    - a. It's of the utmost importance what we look at- Hb12:2,2Cor4:18,Ps121:1-To the hills; Mt6:22-Single eye
    - b. The enemy hates praise and worship because of where it directs your focus

7. You can fix your heart with your praise-**Ps57:7**-*My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise;* **Ps108:1**-*O God my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise*