

## Sing to the Lord

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

### ➤ Intro:

- **world:** music is one of the most powerful social forces - every culture throughout recorded history
  - **can** change our emotions, help our bodies and minds heal, motivate us
- **Christians:** music is a powerful force that helps us in our daily walk with God
  - **church:** makes our assemblies more edifying and worshipful
  - **individual:** helps us focus and stay in our priorities

### ➤ Examples of singing to the lives of God's people:

- **Matt. 26:30** Jesus and the apostles sang a hymn after Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper
- - **Rom. 15:8-9** Jesus sang to God's name
- 2 - **Heb. 2:12** Jesus sang God's praises
  - **singing to God was important part of Jesus' life on earth** - should be with our life too
- - **Acts 16:25** Paul and Silas sang in prison, middle of night, time of great distress - worship, teach
- 2 - **Pr. 29:6** righteous sing
  - **singing is time of great trials helps us endure** - worship, stay focused, teach other about God
    - **illus.: Sing And Be Happy (#683)**
- - **Ja. 5:13b** Christians commanded to sing when happy
  - **illus: He Gave Me A Song (#664)**
- - **Rev. 14:3; 15:3** we will sing in heaven for eternity
  - **illus.: In Heaven They're Singing (#259)**

### ➤ Singing in our assemblies

- **Eph. 5:18-19** filled w/ Spirit, speaking to one another, melody with heart, to Lord
  - **physical act:** sing
  - **spiritual act:** make melody with heart to Lord — most important
  - **"making melody"** means to play strings, pluck strings
    - the strings that we are to play are the strings of our heart
    - God has been specific regarding the "instrument" with which we are to accompany our singing — our heart. We are not authorized to accompany our singing with any other instrument.
- - **Col. 3:16** word of Christ dwell richly, teaching and admonishing (self, others), thankfulness (grace) in heart
  - **what we do we our hearts** most important when we sing
  - **but equipping ourselves with basic musical ability (sing)** will help - make singing and worship and services more edifying — **remainder of lesson**

➤ **Ten Vocal Commandments** Wurgler, P.S. (1994). An Adjudicator Lists Ten Common Vocal Sins. Choral Journal (May), 31-33

- **Open Your Mouth**

- words and sound can't come out if mouth not open
- **illus.: difference when mouth barely open v. wide open** — talk, sing

➤ - **Stand / Sit Tall**

- allows chest cavity to resonate better, more room for air, not restrict airway
- **illus.: difference slouched over v. stand tall** — talk, sing

- **practice: Revive Us Again (#37)**

➤ - **Breathe Low (diaphragm)**

- take in air deep in lungs, stretch diaphragm

➤3 - **pict.:** diaphragm and how it works

➤ - **Move The Air (consistent)**

- it takes air to make sound — not move air, not sing
- **illus.: little air v. moving air** — talk, sing

- **practice: There Is Power In The Blood (#276)**

➤ - **Increase Throat Space (yawn)**

- **illus.: news, consultant to CEOs** how to speak, yawn
- **illus.: closed throat v. open throat** — talk, sing

- **practice: Amazing Grace (#205)**

➤ - **Pay Attention to Diction**

- pronounce the words - for us, doesn't matter if you have an accent (joke, me)
- **illus.: school, Thomasville, sing Georgia on My Mind** — Georgia. . . .

➤ - **Sing Phrases (watch punctuation)**

- watch punctuation for idea where to breathe

- **practice: I Have Decided To Follow Jesus (#280)**

- review commas, breathe at commas - speak words and show where to breathe

➤ - **Balance Register**

- hard since not trained musicians - try to be consistent with high and low notes

➤ - **Communicate**

- speak to God, one another - psalms, hymns, spiritual songs
- **illus.: if Jesus was standing beside you**, how would you sing

➤ - **Be Confident**

- **illus.: sports**, sometimes only difference between winners and losers is confidence

- **practice: I Know Whom I Have Believed (#350)**

➤ **Summary / Inv.:**

- **God's people** have always been a singing people — Jesus, apostles, Christians today
- **we sing in our assemblies:** to God and each other, encouraging and edifying one another
- **when you sing in church:**
  - sing with your heart - doesn't matter how it sounds - heart felt singing always sounds good to God
  - sit / stand straight
  - open mouth and breathe deep
  - pronounce the words and sign phrases
  - be confident and sing out
  
- **Inv.:** have a song in your heart, be a Christian, faithful to God