

TOTAL GRACE: "Join the Song Part 2"

INTRODUCTION: "Singing Grace!"

- ✓ Saved people are singing people!
Psalm 92:1; 95:1-6; 100:1-2

"How terrible to wake up on Easter and have no voice to shout, 'He is risen!' Far worse, to have a voice and not want to shout." – W.E. Sangster

SINGING AND THE SAINTS (Colossians 3:16)

- ✓ **Key Point:** The Word of God creates worship.

"We should not use music to create something that the Word of God has not created"

- ✓ **The Form of Worship** – "psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" (Col 3:16)

- **Psalms** – Speaking of the Old Testament Psalms
Psalm 22 quoted by Jesus on the cross
- **Hymns** – theological in nature, didactic and doctrinal.
John 1:1-18; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Timothy 3:16
- **Spiritual Songs** – "Hymns speak to us; Songs allow us to sing to God"

"Worship should never be monochrome. There is no monopoly on Christian song."

At Kindred we follow a blended style of worship. This is not a pragmatic decision, it is a pastoral one. Unity is more important than personal preference. We want songs that are loud and soft, fast and slow, past and present.

- ✓ **The Function of Worship: Reasons to Sing!**

- 1) **Act of Association**: Corporate singing expresses and fosters **unity** in the church!
Psalm 149:1
- 2) **Act of Affirmation**: Singing has a didactic function; "*We can no more sing heresy than teach it.*"
- 3) **Act of Assimilation**: Singing allows us to remember God's Word
Deuteronomy 31:21
- 4) **Act of Amplification**: Singing *allows our emotions to speak*; Singing *speaks to our emotions*.
1 Sam 16:23; Acts 16:25
- 5) **Act of Attrition**: Singing is our battle cry. Luther – singing drives out the devil.
- 6) **Act of Anticipation**: We are clearing our throat for heaven! Book of Revelation – 14 songs.

SINGING AND THE SAVIOR (Colossians 3:16)

- ✓ **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly:** a call to focus on **the gospel**.

"I am a great sinner and Christ is a great savior." (John Newton)

Shepherd Group Study Questions

November 18, 2018

REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

PERSONAL RESPONSES

1

One of the main points of the sermon is that **there are a variety of songs which glorify God** (psalms, hymns and spiritual songs). What types of songs do you tend to prefer?

Name one favorite song from each type that is listed:

Psalm –

Hymn –

Spiritual Song -

2

Pastor Philip made the point that there are two extremes that we can go to in our walk with God:

Emotionalism - Pursuing emotions apart from the truth of God's Word.

No Emotions – "It is impossible to contemplate God and His gospel without any emotions".

Which extreme do you tend to go to in your own spiritual experience? What are some spiritual practices that have helped you to overcome this imbalance?

DIGGING DEEPER

1

The Bible speaks to the many ways that **songs teach truth**. The passages below may have been sung as hymns in the early church. What are some key truths that are found in each passage?

Colossians 1:15-16 *English Standard Version (ESV)*

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him.

Philippians 2:5-11 *English Standard Version (ESV)*

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

1 Timothy 3:16 *English Standard Version (ESV)*

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.

2 Read **Psalm 145** in its entirety. This song is the overflow of a man whose **mind** has been saturated by the **truth** of God's Word.

What are some of the **attributes of God** named in this Psalm?

What are some of the **acts of God** mentioned in this Psalm?

As you contemplate the **attributes** and the **acts** of God in this Psalm, what **emotions** are provoked in your heart?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1 Looking back at the sermon, are there any goals you'd like to work on in the next few days/weeks that could help you grow in the two areas below?

- *My personal understanding of the "psalms", "hymns" and "spiritual songs" of the church:*

- *My participation in the corporate singing of the church:*

2 Review the **five reasons to sing** that Pastor Philip covered in his sermon. Choose **one area** and write out a specific way that you would like to put this into practice in your life:

ADDITIONAL REFLECTIONS

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