

# Importance of Music as a part of the Worship Experience

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# Purpose

*To examine and discuss the importance of music and singing as a part of the worship experience.*



# Components

- The Spirit-filled Church
- Developed Singing Ability: To Sing or Not to Sing
- Knowing Your Demographics

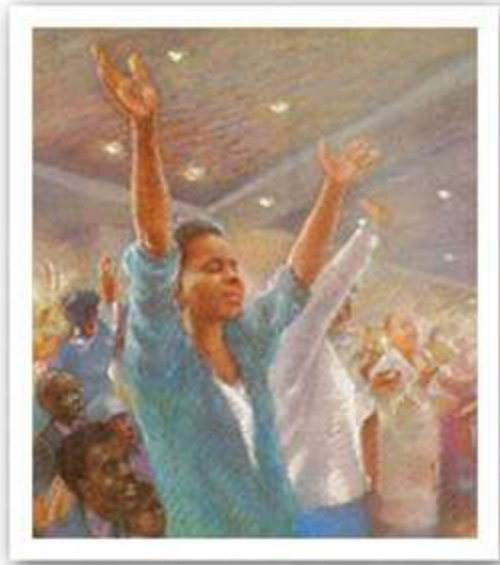
# The Spirit-Filled Church

- **Every ministry in a church must be Spirit led**
  - *What does this mean?*
    - ◆ **The singers must be Spirit-filled and Spirit controlled**
      - ◆ *Spirit-filled singers and musicians are a must, in order to have an effective Music Ministry in any church*
      - ◆ *The spirit-filled singer must follow Jesus Christ*

# The Spirit-Filled Church

- Why?
  - ◆ *The directive of the Church is to proclaim the Good News*
  - ◆ *The method is to 'preach'*
    - *To be a herald; using words to proclaim something*
    - *Always with the suggestion of formality, gravity and an authority which must be listened to and obeyed*
  - ◆ *The 'equipment' Jesus Christ gave us in order to effectively carry out the Great Commission is the Holy Spirit*
    - *"...As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit..." John 20:21b-22*

# The Spirit-Filled Church



- ◆ Singing, sometimes, is preaching put to music
- ◆ To have an effective singing ministry, the singers must have the right equipment—The Holy Spirit

# Developed Singing Ability: *To Sing or Not to Sing...*

- **If one cannot sing, they should not be put in a music ministry**
  - *This is self-explanatory*
- **Learning to sing with others takes time, discipline, and effort**

# Developed Singing Ability: *To Sing or Not to Sing...*

- **”Learning to sing with others...”**
  - ◆ *Singing with others is a learned skill*
  - *Everyone is NOT a team player*
  - ◆ *Every good singer did not start out as one*
  - *”Practice makes perfect”*



# Developed Singing Ability: *To Sing or Not to Sing...*

- **”...Takes time...”**
  - *Just as Mathematics must be studied, singing must be studied*
  - *Studying takes time*
- **”...Takes discipline...”**
  - *Good singers allow themselves to be trained spiritually and physically*
- **”...Takes effort...”**
  - *”If at first you don't succeed, try again!”*

# Know Your Demographics

## ■ What are demographics?

- The most recent statistical characteristics of a population
- They are about the population of a region and the culture of the people there



# Know Your Demographics

- **What should demographics tell me?**
  - What songs to sing
    - Choose songs mindful of the particular congregation
    - However, don't be afraid to 'move' the congregation towards something new that they can handle
  - What songs not to sing
    - Do not sing songs your listeners cannot relate to
  - How long to sing a song
    - Women and Men differ in how long they wish to stay in a service

# The Effects

- **Singing invokes emotion**
  - Consider the different types of music. What kind of emotional responses do they invoke?
    - Romantic
    - Jazz
    - Gangster Rap
    - Heavy Metal
    - Gospel
    - African Traditional Music
    - Smooth R&B

# The Effects

- **Singing opens up the 'soul' to receive**
  - Hymns were sung in ancient Egypt to invoke their gods in religious ceremonies
- **Singing allows for the free 'flow' of the Word**
  - When the Word flows, there is always
    - Healing
    - Deliverance

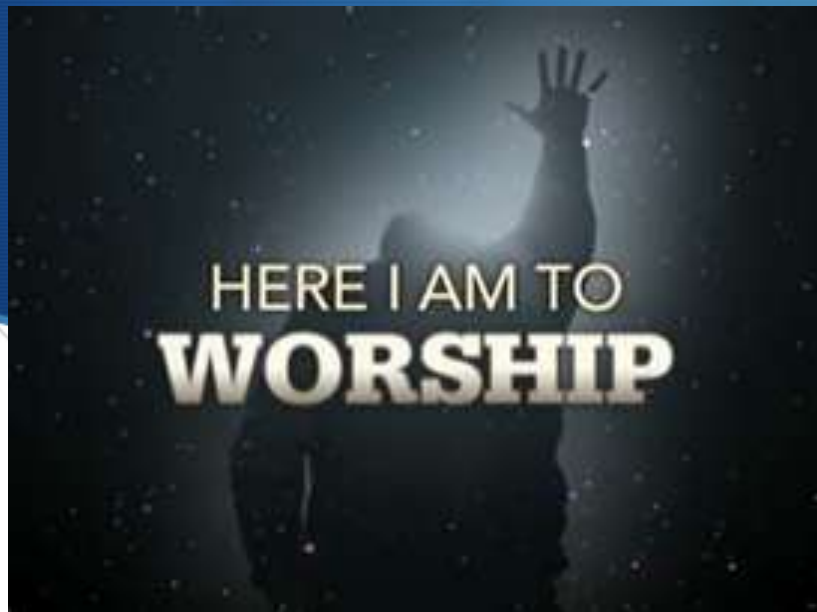
# The Importance of Singing as part of the Worship experience:

- **Conclusion**

- Psalm 96
  - 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
  - 2 Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.



So what is Music?  
What is a Worship Experience?  
Why is it Important?



# What is Music?

- a God-given, morally neutral language of emotion communicated in a cultural context.



# Music: God-Given

- ◆ Multifaceted Gift

- ◆ Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. – Eph. 4:8
- ◆ A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it: whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth. – Proverbs 17:8

- ◆ Functions as a:

- ◆ Weapon of Warfare
- ◆ Witnessing Tool
- ◆ Inspirational Tool
- ◆ Creative form of expression



# Music: Language of Emotion

“Music has a power  
of forming the  
character...” – Aristotle

Is this true?

**NO**

Character is not formed  
from emotion just as spirit is  
not formed from flesh.

And God said, Let us make  
man in our image, after our  
likeness:... Gen. 1:26

# Music: Language of Emotion

- ◆ Emotion (flesh) verses Character (spirit)
  - ◆ Gal. 5:22-23 Fruits of the Spirit
  - ◆ 2 Cor. 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
- ◆ Music Therapy
  - ◆ 1 Samuel 16:15–23, David soothed Saul's spirit.
  - ◆ 2 Kings 3:14–16, Elisha's spirit is calmed to minister by the ministry of the harpist.

“Music  
has  
only  
the  
power  
we  
give it.”  
- Bob Kauflin

# Music: Language of Emotion

## Power of Expression

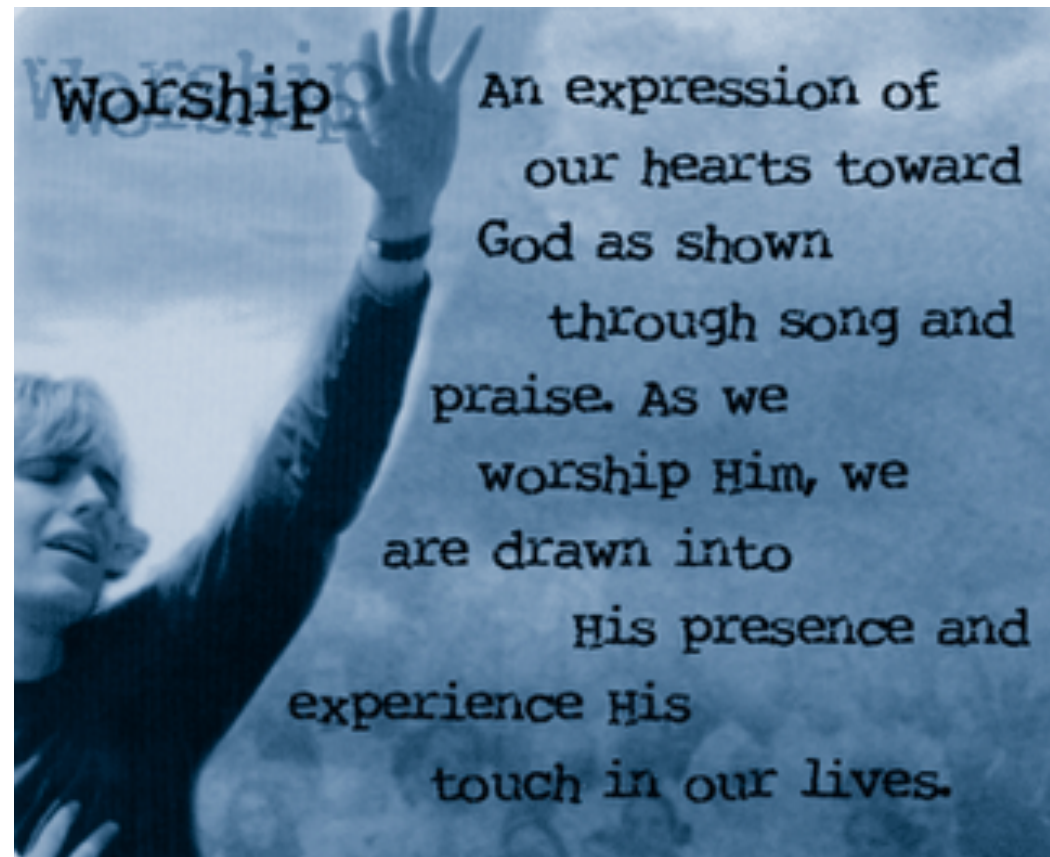
- Can music express every emotion?

Eph. 5:19 Speaking to yourselves in *psalms* and *hymns* and *spiritual songs*, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

# Music: Cultural Context

## Why & How Music Affects Us?

- ◆ Principles
- ◆ Context
- ◆ Mindset
- ◆ Motive



# Music: Cultural Context

- ◆ Principles
  - ◆ Culturally learned and lead to a personal preference (Southern v. Church v. Jamaican)
  - ◆ Mechanics such as: fast v. slow, harmony v. dissonance, melodic v. rhythmic
- ◆ Context
  - ◆ Equated with and absorbs its surroundings
  - ◆ Where am I now?

# Music: Cultural Context

- ◆ Mindset
  - ◆ Good v. evil
  - ◆ Useful transition or method to avoid “dead” space
- ◆ Motive
  - ◆ WIIFM
  - ◆ Showcase for Industry v. Gifted to Minister

# Worship Experience



Let's set the atmosphere,  
for a mighty movement  
of God – Kurt Carr

I need a worship experience  
A connection with your  
Spirit Empowered by Your  
presence – William Murphy III



# Conclusion

## God, Love & Music

- ◆ Music is not the only tool and avenue God uses to reach us but it is certainly one if not the most powerful.
- ◆ Just as God in HIS infinite wisdom does, music has a way to seep pass our flesh, down to the “nooks and crannies” of the soul He created and do things we at best will still never understand, but have an ever growing appreciation for.

# Conclusion

- ◆ If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.  
– Psalm 137:6
- ◆ O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths its  
flow May richer, fuller be. - George Matheson

"O sing to the Lord  
a new song, for he has  
done marvelous things."





# Questions & Evaluations

Thank You

