

“WITH ONE VOICE”

Why Christians SING Together

“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that **with one heart and mouth** you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” – Paul (Romans 15:5-6)

“By your concord and harmonious love Jesus Christ is being sung. Now **all of you together** become a choir so that being harmoniously in concord and receiving the key note from God in unison you may **sing with one voice** through Jesus Christ to the Father.” – Ignatius (c. 110 A.D.)

WHY DO CHRISTIANS SING? A RICH DOCTRINAL BASIS

1. **Because** _____ **sang.** (Matthew 26:30)
2. **Because it praises** _____. (Psalm 103; Hebrews 2:12)
3. **Because it allows us to** _____ **to our good God.** (Psalm 100; Colossians 3:16-17)
4. **Because it preaches** _____. (Philippians 2:6-11, 1Timothy 3:16)
5. **Singing is a** _____ **we offer to God.** (Hebrews 13:15)
6. **Singing expresses the indwelling** _____ **and the Word of Christ.** (Ephesians 5:18-19; Colossians 3:16)
7. **Singing is mutually** _____. (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 14:15-17, 26)
8. **Singing expresses the** _____ **of our** _____. (James 5:13; Psalms 102)



9. Singing etches the _____ deep into our heart.
10. Congregational singing exemplifies the _____ of the church. (Romans 15:5-6)

THE NATURE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

John 4:19-24

- It is based on _____.
- It reflects the change from the _____ COVENANT to the _____.
- It is consistent with the NATURE OF _____.

Why Did The First Christians Reject Instrumental Music?

In spite of the fact that the earliest Christians sang from the Psalter, they failed to retain the instrumental music of the Temple worship. For many centuries the worship of the church remained *a cappella* (vocal only – literally “in the manner of the church.”) In fact, early church scholars decisively and uniformly rejected instrumental accompaniment in worship. WHY?

1. Early Christians considered the instrumental music of the Old Testament as a concession to the spiritual dullness of that age and therefore as inappropriate for _____ worship.



2. They understood the appropriate “instruments” by which Christians make music to be _____ and a _____.
3. They understood singing to be a _____, pleasing to God and beneficial both to those who sing and those who hear.

4. Early Christian scholars taught that congregational singing exemplifies the _____ of the body and soul, the harmony of man with God, and the _____ of the church.