

# Praise To God

When we are invited into the presence of God and allowed to worship, it is a most significant event. We yield homage to and bestow adoration to our Lord who saved us. It should never be taken casually or lightly.

Yet too often our worship services are draggy, casual, and unprepared. Not only is this an offense to God, it is a sad and destructive message to our visitors. All they have to do is perceive or “feel” the casual indifference and they will ask themselves, “Why did I come if this is so unimportant to them?”

The prevailing thought among the world now is that worship is an event that should be filled with celebration and entertainment. You do not need “celebration worship” or entertain people today in order to grow. However, you do have to do something that is worthwhile and valuable if you are going to expect someone to turn their interest away from the world and toward God.

Song leaders who do not know the songs they lead, dull prayers, bored worshipers, and inconsequential reverence to God are not scriptural and they do not contribute to growth. It thrills my soul to see conscientious Christians learning how to better praise God. The effort to learn how to better worship to our Lord will never, ever be wasted!

How we can effectively praise the Lord? Psalm 104:33-34 says, “I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.” There are four points in these two verses that need to be considered:

- The direction of praise: “I will sing unto the Lord ... I will sing praise to my God.”
- The duration of praise: “As long as I live ... while I have my being.”
- The discretion of praise: “My meditation of him shall be sweet.”
- The decision of praise: “I will be glad in the Lord.”

Singing can make or break a congregation. There is such a wonderful sense of enthusiasm and devotion when brethren sing from the heart and their voices blend together. Colossians 3:16 says, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” When you sing, show your devotion to God and your willingness to encourage our brethren.

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