

## Sing with Understanding: Growing as Musical Worshipers, Part One

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### Questions for reflection:

- 1) Does the word “duty” have a negative connotation to you when applied to worship? Why? Are attitudes of joy and a spirit of duty in opposition to each other?
  
- 2) Do you think of worship as *primarily* connected something you do or something you receive?
  
- 3) Do you think of your acts of worship “improving” over the course of your faith?
  
- 4) Do you put in more physical or mental “effort” during worship toward one worship act more than another? Is that right?
  
- 5) Reflect on the idea, perhaps new to you, that singing *text* isn’t the primary object to evaluate in church music, but the music-making itself. What implications might that have for you?

### Supplemental reading, pt. 1:

- Randall D. Engle, “A Devil’s Siren or an Angel’s Throat? The Pipe Organ Controversy Among the Calvinists,” in Amy Nelson Burnett, ed. *John Calvin, Myth and Reality: Images and Impact of Geneva’s Reformer* (Calvin Studies Society, 2011)
- John W. Kleinig, *The Lord’s Song: The Basis, Function, and Significance of Choral Music in Chronicles* (Sheffield Academic Press, 2009)
- John Antes Latrobe, *The Music of the Church Considered in Its Various Branches, Congregational and Choral* (1831, available in reprint editions)
- James McKinnon, “The Meaning of the Patristic Polemic Against Musical Instruments,” *Current Musicology*, no. 1, 1 (2019)
- Anna E. Nekola, “I’ll Take You There: The Promise of Transformation in the Marketing of Worship Media in U.S. Christian Music Magazines,” in Monique Marie Ingalls and others, ed. *Christian Congregational Music: Performance, Identity, and Experience* (Routledge, 2016)
- Jonty Rhodes, *Reformed Worship* (P&R Publications, 2023)
- Erik Routley, *The Church and Music: An Enquiry into the History, the Nature, and the Scope of Christian Judgment on Music* (Duckworth, 1950)
- John Stainer, *Music Considered in its Effect upon, and Connection with the Worship of the Church* (1894)