

Sing and Worship

1. **Why does God want us to sing and worship? Does God like concerts?**
2. **God wants us to sing hymns. It is not a ritual or a program. God wants us to draw close to Him and enjoy Him by singing and worshiping.**

. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord. (Psalm 104:33-34 ESV)

3. **The contents of hymns are all about God and various precious truths. When we sing, we think of God Himself and His different kinds of beauty. This attracts us to draw close to God and enjoy God's presence.**

. To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD, who addressed the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said: (Psalm 18:title ESV)

. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! (Psalm 105:2 ESV)

. My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe. (Psalm 45:1 ESV)

4. **When we sing hymns to God, we express our gratitude and appreciation to God. When we sing and worship with our whole heart, we pay full attention to Him and we are reminded to live in His presence.**

. Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear: forget your people and your father's house, and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. (Psalm 45:10-11 ESV)

. So will I ever sing praises to your name, as I perform my vows day after day. (Psalm 61:8 ESV)

. What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD; I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. (Psalm 116:12-14 ESV)

5. When we draw close to God, God draws close to us; when we are with Him, He will draw closer to us.

- . Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. (Psalm 73:23 ESV)
- . Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. (James 4:8 ESV)

6. After singing a hymn, the beautiful contents are right in front of us. We respond to God and express the feelings in our hearts through words. We go forward to draw close to Him, cherish Him, and kiss Him, this is worship.

- . Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16 ESV)
- . So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. (Psalm 63:4 ESV)

7. When we worship, God will appear in our hearts. He will express His love for us and explain various truths. He will give us fresh understanding and enjoyment.

- . For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh. (Philippians 3:3 ESV)
- . When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. (John 16:13 ESV)

8. Worship isn't one-sided, but it's a fellowship between God and man; the interflow of mutual love in our spirits.

- . How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light. Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your righteousness to the upright of heart! (Psalm 36:7-10 ESV)

9. Therefore, singing and worshiping is not a musical performance that only focuses on the melody or instrumental performance, but they are from our hearts. Our love and appreciation outflow towards God. Of course, good music and beautiful words will also help us easily understand and realize the truth.

- . Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. (Psalm 33:1-5 ESV)
- . My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody! Awake, my glory! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn! (Psalm 57:7-8 ESV)

10. In addition to worshiping in spirit, songs or hymns must be based on the truth, not on people's fancy words because the Holy Spirit works in us through the truth. He will guide us to get closer to worship God.

- . Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5:19-20 ESV)
- . Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16 ESV)

11. The time to worship God personally is really a precious moment and we need to arrange time for it every day. We can sing a stanza, say a few words to God, and then sing two more stanzas. It is very free and very sweet. We can also write down the feelings in our hearts and sing new songs to God.

- . So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. (Psalm 63:4 ESV)
- . I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. (Psalm 104:33 ESV)
- . I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. (Psalm 146:2 ESV)

12. We also worship together with the brothers and sisters, expressing our love together. Although many people voice out, we respond with one heart and one mouth. The prayers of the brothers and sisters are also the prayers of your heart, and we all worship together in harmony.

- . That together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 15:6 ESV)
- . I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. (Psalm 22:22 ESV)

13. When we give thanks and worship in this way, we glorify God, and God is greatly satisfied. We also enter deeper into enjoyment.

- . Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. (Psalm 22:3 ESV)
- . Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre! (Psalm 147:7 ESV)
- . Draw me after you; let us run. The king has brought me into his chambers. We will exult and rejoice in you; we will extol your love more than wine; rightly do they love you. (Song of Solomon 1:4 ESV)