

GROW IN GRACE

NEWSLETTER

PLEASE USE the Grow in Grace Newsletter for your own spiritual growth; and **AS A RESOURCE** to help equip you to MINISTER to others! **Volume 47, No. 38, September 27, 2022** / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!”***



“Gentlemen, this is a football!” The Green Bay Packers football team ended the 1960 season in a loss to the Philadelphia Eagles after blowing a lead in the 4th quarter of the NFL Championship Game. **In 1961, when the players came in to begin training camp, Coach Vince Lombardi held up a football and said, “Gentlemen, this is a football!”** He then had everyone open up their playbooks and start on page one! **The famous Coach required them to LEARN AGAIN the fundamentals - blocking, tackling, throwing, catching, etc.**

This focus on fundamentals empowered the Packers to win the NFL Championship that season, 37-0 against the New York Giants. Coach Lombardi and the Packers went on to win five NFL Championships in seven years. He never coached a team with a losing season after that and never lost a playoff game again. **ALL THAT FOR A GAME!**

GENUINE CHRISTIANS in general... and SOUTHSIDERS specifically— are CALLED to that which is exceedingly greater than a football championship! WE ARE CALLED TO WORSHIP GOD! We ‘know’ the basics of this SUPREME CALLING— BUT WE MUST EMBRACE THEM!

[1] When we gather as a Church Family to worship God, it means that we have gathered **to ascribe** worth to God; **to prostrate** ourselves before God in loving submission; **to offer** unto Him honor, praise, and adoration; **to recognize** God’s glory, greatness, power, majesty, and **rule**; **and it means that we offer ourselves to Him as His servants!**

[2] THE TRUE WORSHIP OF GOD IS ABOUT, “**Did God receive** my whole hearted praise, adoration? **Did He receive** from me offerings of repentance, submission, and fresh obedience?”

[3] WAKE UP CALL: *A Biblically based worship service is not designed to attract crowds— rather, is an opportunity for saints to worship God in spirit and in truth. The entire service is to be WORSHIP unto the LORD— be it while singing; and/or praying unto the LORD; or WHILE receiving the preached/taught WORD OF GOD!*

HERE IS AN ALL TOO COMMON and SAD REALITY

[1] Folks who have not worshiped in spirit and in truth all week, walk in for congregational worship services **DESIRING** to be pleased, to be made to feel good, and desiring to be religiously excited. **THUS,**

[2] IT IS COMMON FOR Professionals to stand before congregations with charismatic personalities, with high powered electronics, dramatic **SIGHTS** and **SOUNDS**; and with powerful, flesh appealing musical and dramatic presentations. **THE CROWDS LOVE IT! BEWARE:** Here are two Biblical examples of exciting, crowd pleasing, innovative congregational worship services—

BUT THERE WAS A PROBLEM! GOD REJECTED IT:

Exodus 32; Isaiah 1:1-17

SOLUTION: “IN TRUE WORSHIP praise and obedience are given to God because of WHO HE IS and because of His great acts of Creation and Redemption.”

MOREOVER, the true worship to God is NOT LIMITED to congregational worship; but is done in daily life as we respond to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit with the grand note of worship— “AMEN!”

“AMEN, SO BE IT LORD! I GIVE THANKS and PRAISE YOU! I embrace thy will, I surrender, submit, yield, and bow to Thee! I choose to forgive. I choose to love, to be kind, etc. I FLEE SIN!”

In other words, GOD SPEAKS: WE BOW and OBEY, and proclaim, “Be it unto me according to Thy Word!” That’s the ‘AMEN!’ of genuine worship. Christian worship is about what God receives, rather than about what we get!

GENUINE WORSHIP: When those who worship God in daily life show up for a congregational worship service with fellow saints— No one has to artificially prime the ‘worship pump!’ When we are true worshippers of God in daily life— GENUINE EXCITEMENT, THE JOY OF THE LORD, AWESOME PRAISE, and FRESH FAITH/OBEDIENCE WILL COME FORTH in the congregational Worship!

THE RESULT OF such CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP IS THAT, We go forth into the world living lives of INCREASED love, purity, compassion, forgiveness, joy, peace, and more. **We go forth** on mission to make Christ visible and known to the lost world around us. **AND when we adapt ourselves to Him and to His**

revealed will in worship, we will receive what we need from worship— namely, **JOY IN GOD! Renewed power!** And renewed **BOLDNESS! Fresh boldness** as witnesses for Christ!

BIBLICAL Expressions in the Corporate Worship of God!



... Yes, we have heard, we 'know'... but for so much of the fundamental basics of WORSHIP— WE REMAIN LAX ... or filled with our own ideas... or in rebellion!

I. The preaching/teaching of the Word of God is foundational and VITAL in corporate worship. ***"To worship God we must know who God is, but we cannot know who God is unless God first chooses to reveal Himself to us. God has done this in the Bible, which is why the Bible and the teaching of the Bible need to be central in our worship."*** (James M. Boice)

II. In the worship of God it is NEEDFUL for the whole congregation to HEED THE PATTERN OF SCRIPTURE... to freely and expressively speak forth words of Praise to God; and **to openly say, "AMEN!"** [**Saying 'AMEN' is saying "Yes!" to God! "So be it LORD!"**]

***** Nehemiah 8:6—** "And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, **and all the people** answered, **AMEN, AMEN...**"

***** 1 Chronicles 16:8-36—** A great, God-centered Psalm was read before the people..."**And all the people said, AMEN,** and praised the LORD!"

***** Psalm 106:48—** "Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let **all the people** say, **AMEN, PRAISE YE THE LORD!**

***** Revelation 7:9-12—** All those in heaven are worshiping God and saying, "**AMEN!** Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and

thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, BE UNTO OUR GOD forever and ever. **“AMEN! AMEN! ALLELUIA!”**

III. In the worship of God it is NEEDFUL for the congregation to freely and expressively SING! **Psalm 95:1

— "O come, let US sing unto the LORD. **Let US** make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation." **** Ephesians 5:19—**

"Speaking to YOURSELVES in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the LORD!" (Col. 3:16; Matt.26:30)

AS TO SINGING UNTO THE LORD— WE MUST AWAKEN TO THE ORIGIN, PURPOSE, and POWER OF MUSIC!

In Genesis, as the historical account of creation is unveiled, God simply proclaimed again and again, **“It is good!”** AND, as we learn in Job 38:4, 7, all the angels responded to God’s grand creative acts with **SINGING AND SHOUTING FOR JOY!** (See Psalm 19:1-6) **(THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN** prior to Lucifer’s rebellion. The universe was still united in perfect harmony. There was not one dissenting voice! Lucifer and all other angelic beings **SANG AND SHOUTED FOR JOY** when God set in motion the laying of the earth’s foundation!)

One of the clear revelations of this scene is that **singing/music presented in praise to God** was the chief occupation of Lucifer prior to his fall! Indeed, angelic beings are seen thorough out Scripture **SOUNDING FORTH PRAISE** and **MUSIC** in joyful worship of Almighty God. When Jesus came to earth, *“a multitude of the heavenly hosts”* were praising God! When Isaiah saw the LORD in a vision of the Throne Room of the Universe, the seraphim were crying out **PRAISE** to God! **THE REVELATION** shows wonderful **PRAISE TO GOD** by angelic ones.

THE POINT? The Bible reveals very clearly that **MUSIC** is a

creation of God **FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE PRAISE and WORSHIP OF THE ALMIGHTY, TRIUNE GOD!** HOWEVER, at some point Lucifer began to desire worship for himself. In arrogance and pride he rebelled, (Isaiah 14:13-14). Tragically, a full one third of the angelic hosts joined Lucifer's rebellion. God kicked satan and these fallen angels out of heaven. Their sphere of influence was and is to this day, upon the earth. (Luke 10:18; Rev. 12:3, 7-9)

WHAT'S THE POINT? Now satan and the fallen angels who were originally created with musical giftedness which they used day and night in praise to God— they rebelled against God: They are now working in the sphere of the earth. **THEY STILL HAVE THEIR PRIMARY GIFTEDNESS— MUSIC!** But obviously, they do not use it for the purpose of praise to God! They now use all of their musical ability to generate worship for Lucifer or satan! It is critically important to understand that **Lucifer knows the power of music!** **REALITY:** By the means of 'his music' satan stirs the masses physically, emotionally, and spiritually for his own evil purposes!

SINCE MUSIC WAS CREATED BY GOD FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE WORSHIP OF THE ONE TRUE AND WORTHY ALMIGHTY GOD— Music that does not lead one to worship, honor, and serve Almighty God, must of necessity (sooner or later) lead one down a path of turning away from God, of growing cold toward God, of rebelling against God, and even of (ignorantly or otherwise!) worshiping satan himself. **REALITY: Lucifer and/or the fallen angels INSPIRE music to create worship for Lucifer!**

Remember: Satan offered Jesus the kingdoms of this world, if Jesus would only worship him! Satan, (an ex-angelic and ex-heavenly musician), now inspires music of many different stripes as he seeks to divert worship from God to himself! **SATAN HAS**

COUNTERFEITED MUSIC! The airwaves of the world are filled with music— but not in praise to God! There is music for every age group, every taste and every culture. It is music that promotes the world and the flesh. And unknown to most, the world's music has and will lead the masses to bow at satan's feet! ***Satan is ultimately behind any music, (including much religious music), that does not move us to worship, adore, and serve Almighty God and the Lamb!***

THE SAD REALITY IS that there is much so called Christian music that feeds the lusts of folk who love the world and have no intention of giving up their idols! Satan does not care what "flavor" of music we embrace, just so long as the music we choose does not openly and positively glorify God and the Lamb.

WAKE UP CALL: Since music is a wonderful gift from God, created for the purpose of magnifying God in worship; and SINCE MUSIC that openly and obviously glorifies God **is the only kind of music that is and forever will be in heaven— Why Would Any Christian Not Openly and Habitually Love Such Music?**

SOME HELPFUL thoughts as to Music that is GODLY:

- (1)** If it has words, the words will be in line with Bible doctrine;
- (2)** The focus will be God-centered and God-glorifying; and not man-centered and flesh feeding;
- (3)** The music will fit the words according to concepts of Galatians 5:17;
- (4)** Godly music will draw attention and praise to God;
- (5)** Godly music will edify and build you up to live a holy, Christ-honoring life.

IV. It is NEEDFUL to give TESTIMONIES in the midst of the congregation! (Ps. 22:22-25; Ps 35:18; Ps. 66:13-16; Ps. 107:1-2; Ps. 107:31-32)

V. In the worship of God it is NEEDFUL for our hearts and hands to blend in worship to God. "Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, **as I lift MY HANDS** toward your most holy place." (Psalm 28:2) "The LORD is my strength and my shield; My HEART trusts in Him, and I am helped. MY HEART leaps for joy and I will give thanks to Him in song." (Psalm 28:7)

EXTENDED HANDS reveal the worshipper in a posture of faith, looking to God for mercy and grace. (Psalm 88:9b)

LIFTED UP HANDS are also in the context of praise to God for his greatness. "Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD... **Lift up your hands** in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD!" (Ps. 134:1-2)

"And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, **AMEN, AMEN, with lifting up their hands**, and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground." (Neh. 8:6)

God inspired the Apostle Paul to write: "I will therefore that men PRAY everywhere, **LIFTING UP HOLY HANDS**, without wrath and doubting." (1 Timothy 2:8)

WAKE UP CALL: "The loss of God's centrality in the life of today's church is common and tragic. It is the loss that HAS BROUGHT MULTITUDES TO ** Transform worship into entertainment, ** Gospel preaching into marketing, ** Becoming Christ-like into feeling good about ourselves, and ** Faithfulness into being successful..." **THE GREAT NEED OF THE HOUR:** We must focus on God in our worship, rather than the satisfaction of our personal desires, likes, or needs. **God is sovereign in**

worship; we are not. Our concern must be for God's kingdom, not our own empires, popularity, or success."

BELOVED! LET US GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD!

James Bell / www.southsidegallatin.org

SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES:

SUNDAY SERVICES: OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 / 2022

1. * Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes. **2. *** WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SERVICES: * [1] 10/2/22 ... NOON Fellowship Meal *** [2.] 10/9/22 ... 5pm Training Faithful Men *** [3] 10/16/22 ... AFTER the MORNING service: THE LORD'S TABLE... *** [4] 10/23/22 ... FOURTH SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE at 5PM.** (Adam, Bradley, and others give specific preparation for this Service.... and, this month, **LUKAS HASKINS** is scheduled to preach.) ***** [5] 10/31/22... EVENING Rest/good works**

EVERY SATURDAY* 8:00 AM, — Men's Bible Study!** (*Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Sausage Biscuits are available!*)
[STUDYING IN JEREMIAH]

***** NEXT Ladies Bible Study, OCTOBER 11, @ 11:00 AM**

TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: 6:30pm— come in back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning! ** Adult Prayer Service ** Young FAMILIES Prayer Service [ADAM or Jaden weekly communicate as to LOCATION]

***** LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING:**

SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066/ OR...

TO GIVE via ONLINE GIVING:

<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>

HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES AND as to Responding with WISDOM and NOT fear IN SEEKING TO KEEP AS HEALTHY AS WE CAN— SO AS TO BE ACTIVE IN THE KINGDOM BUSINESS OF THE LORD!

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; or if you have • Fever; • Coughing; • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], Please stay home!

[A GUIDE— IF WITH WHAT YOU HAVE, YOU WOULD GO TO WORK, THEN COME AND GATHER WITH THE SAINTS!]

2. WHEN YOU COME ... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM as to 'social distancing'... masks ... vaccine choices, etc. — PLEASE HONOR THE LORD, by continuing to give sensitivity and respect one to another.

3. In addition to carefulness, good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: SEEK TO BUILD UP A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM! I PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, E, ZINC, GINGER, VITAMIN D, Quercetin, a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber... And Ivermectin. LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene — please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.

4. HERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL resource from ... FROM Doctors who successfully treat covid-19 patients! => <https://breggin.com/covid-19-home-treatment/> //// Peter McCullough, MD, BRIEF. EXCELLENT: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAHi3lX3oGM>

The PDF booklet: A Guide to Home-Based COVID Treatment can be downloaded ... **focus is on PREVENTION and early treatment:** COVID

Treatment - Truth for Health Foundation <https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/>