



WEST COLUMBIA  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

## SINGING to WHOM?

The Lord has reasons for what He asks us to do. Trying to understand those reasons will help us better **do** what He wants and better please Him. Take singing for instance. Who do we sing to? Why? Here are some things the Lord has said:

"Speaking to **YOURSELVES** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the LORD;" - Ephesians 5:19

"Teaching and admonishing **ONE ANOTHER** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the LORD." - Colossians 3:16

Here, the Lord tells us there are **two** parts to our singing. First, there's a **physical** part, the actual words we **speak** with our mouths that others around us can **hear**. These words are to **teach** and **admonish**. Therefore, they **must** be **good** words, true and upright, able and fit to teach and admonish. (God's word is best for this: **Rom 1:16, John 17:17**) They can't be vain or empty words, or teach **contrary** to the scripture. That's another reason to not **hum or whistle, clap our hands**, or use an **organ or piano**—they don't teach or admonish. **We do—with** our **words** and **voices**. And we must speak with our voices to be obedient to God's command. If we remain **silent**, we **aren't** singing as God commanded. He won't be happy if we don't obey (read **1 Samuel 15:22**).

The second part of our singing is **spiritual**. It's the part you and I can not **hear**—the melody and grace in our **hearts!** The Lord however **can hear** and know our **hearts**; that part is for Him. An **organ or piano** doesn't have a heart; it won't last for eternity; the Lord isn't interested in them. He's interested in **us** and our **eternal** hearts and the **melody of love and faith and grace** that must be in them.

Just as our worship must be in spirit and in truth, so must our singing be in spirit to the Lord, and in truth (God's Word, **John 17:17**) to one another.

Let's think about **how, why and what** we sing, to make sure we understand and are doing what the Lord wants us to do. It will make Him happy with us, and that's a **good** thing!

“I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.” - 1 Cor. 14:15

- Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

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### SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: TJ BOLEN—Time to Decide, Joshua 24:14-15

PM: TJ BOLEN—Redemption

### WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?

“When the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he said to him, Friend, how came thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.” - Matt 22:11-14

**NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!**

*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
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JOIN US IN  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY!

### SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
Office Phone (803) 794-5320

*Nursery provided*  
*Bible Classes for all ages*

*Informal Bible Study*  
*Everyone Welcome!*  
Bring your Bible questions  
Saturdays 3 pm

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## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- **Anna Porter** and **Gwen Pittman** really enjoy the cards and calls they receive. Have you done this recently?
- **Anna Porter** is still dealing with a serious foot wound that isn't healing.
- Remember **Lisa and Josiah Jenkins**, and **Margaret Gamble**, Jones' sister
- **Margaret Herring** is also having severe foot problems and is in much pain.
- Remember also: **Hannibal Davis** in Marine Corps recruit training at Parris Island; **Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney, Floyd Richbourg** and **Carolyn Stidham**.
- Remember to pray for and send cards to those we've not seen for awhile.
- Pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge**.

**"Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing."  
- Matthew 24:46**

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **South Eastern Children's Home** Change Cans, 7/13—9/21, pick one up.
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**
- We need **volunteers** to take the DVD and the Lord's supper to our shut-ins.

**“But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work” - 2 Corinthians 9:11**

## **“THE LURE OF THE GOOD ENOUGH”**

Someone has written, "There is no more insidious danger than the lure of the good enough." This is particularly true in the realm of the spiritual. Self-satisfaction is the mother of complacency. Complacency is the mother of sloth. And sloth brings condemnation. Well did Paul warn Christians, **"For if anyone thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself"** (Galatians 6:3). One who thinks he knows enough will cease to study. One who thinks he gives enough will not increase his giving. One who thinks he does enough will cease from doing. The feeling that we are "good enough" is the grave of growth. Growth is the law of life. Like Paul of old, we should rather say, **"I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"** (Philippians 3:13-14). Like an old Scots preacher, we should pray: "Lord, keep me alive as long as I live." Let us not be seduced by "the lure of the good enough."

**- James W. Adams, Gospel Preacher**

Who haven't you seen lately? Our Lord gave us many examples of a good heart. One was in **praying** for others. Jesus prayed for the disciples many times. He also prayed for us—you and me! **"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word" - John 17:20**

Can we do any less, and still call him Lord? Pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ, that all will come to that perfect man the Lord wants—as He prayed for:

*“For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” - John 17:8-17*

## **NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014**

The Lord doesn't want his people to be halfway. It is the result of our lack of understanding of God's blessings, and consequently our lack of commitment to God. This was a problem with the church in Laodicea—they thought they were ok (and didn't really want to know otherwise) and as a result didn't look at themselves to see how they could do better, and so ... did nothing:

**“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot:  
I would thou wert cold or hot.” - Revelation 3:15**

Satan wants to pull the wool over our eyes. Don't let him! God gave another example of a people called to be His—but who liked the world and wanted to ignore Him. God rebuked those people through Joshua. In the same manner today **YOU** are called to serve God. Are you too tired or too busy? Don't make excuses, or think you are doing enough—that is Satan trying to deceive (and kill) you. The choice is yours, **YOU** must choose just as Joshua said long ago:

**“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood,**

**or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell:  
but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” - Joshua 24:15**

Don't be deceived, God isn't fooled (read Galatians 6:7, see if it fits). If you don't actively serve and work for God—you have chosen... unwisely.

**So remember ... NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!**