

Be Careful What You Sing

Singing is a grand and encouraging privilege of the child of God. The first century church sang (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Paul and Silas sang even when in prison (Acts 16:25). The Bible does not authorize choirs, quartets, praise team leaders, etc. The Bible instructs us to SING psalms, hymns and spiritual songs - offering praise unto our Father.

A word of caution though is in order. It is so easy to sing a lie. We must be careful what we sing, and always speak the truth. Please allow me to illustrate this matter:

(1) **I Want To Be A Worker For The Lord** - if and when we are not involved, maybe have never lifted our little finger in "working" for the Master - are we not lying as we sing?

(2) **I Love Thy Kingdom Lord** - while we fail to even attend all the worship services of the church, give a dollar or so toward its works, neglect to pray for her, and certainly do not spread the "good news" by teaching others.

(3) **O To Be Like Thee** - and it is NOT your constant longing and prayer, and you have not and would NOT gladly forfeit all of earth's treasures.

(4) **It Is Well With My Soul** - singing these words and never questioning that you (at that time) are not a faithful child of God.

(5) **Where Could I Go?** It is not true, "hardly a comfort can afford" as we live in this old sinful world.

(6) **I Love To Tell The Story** - but we fail to do what we say we love to do?!

(7) **I Am Resolved** "no longer to linger" as the invitation is sung, sadly many linger! We are not telling the truth!

(8) **I'd Rather Have Jesus** than silver and gold, than have riches untold, than houses or land. Can we say ALL sing the truth with these words?

Some excellent songs are TRUE and will always be THE TRUTH when we sing them.

Examples:

(1) **Into Our Hands** the gospel is given, thus, let us carry God's precious message to any and all.

(2) **In Heaven They're Singing** a wonderful song ... the songs of salvation, a story that never grows old. We read of its beauty but we know its glory has never been told, in that beautiful city of gold.

(3) **Farther Along** we'll know all about it, we'll understand why - but tragically it will be too late for so many.

(4) **Why Did My Savior Come To Earth** - because He loved me so!

(5) **Count Your Blessings** - name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

(6) **Our God, He Is Alive** - from dust our God created man ... the great I AM!

(7) **Do You Love The Lord** - God sent His only Son ... to show us His great love.

(8) **We Are Going Down The Valley** one by one.

(9) **When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder** we will ALL be there!

AN OVERVIEW - Never minimize the benefit and value of singing. Do not neglect the privilege and honor of blending your voice with the "family" and praising our Father in Heaven. But, please make sure you are speaking the truth! Listen to the message of the song, make certain it reflects your thoughts, attitudes and solid belief. Friend, if we will become the person God wants us to be, we will always sing the truth!

- Paul Sain, East Hill Church of Christ, Pulaski, TN (*Bulletin Digest*) -

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

The greatest homage we can pay to truth is to use it. - Emerson

News & Notes

COVERED DISH DINNER & EARLY SERVICE: TODAY at about Noon at the Fellowship Building followed by our afternoon service at 2:00 p.m. (instead of 5:30 p.m.)

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 406. This class is for those who were baptized in the last three years.

TO HAVE SURGERY: This Tuesday, March 13th, Charlie Delong will have open heart surgery at Allegheny Hospital in Pittsburgh. Remember him and his family in your prayers.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited and urged to help in this good work to make stuffed bears for sick & needy kids.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES: Each Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m. Men are encouraged to attend this good class.

GET BETTER ACQUAINTED: Our Elders and Minister want to get to know the members of this congregation better by voluntary home visits or at a scheduled time here at the building. A sign-up sheet is on the desk in the foyer. 100% participation requested.

PANTRY: Vegetable beef and tomato soups.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Mike Kodrich (Betty Henthorne's son), 30 Crystal Ave., Williamstown, WV 26187. Jean Haught (Skip's Mom), 42 Haught Lane, Follansbee, WV 26037. Susie Haught (Skip & Sue's daughter-in-law), 220 Rexroad Dr., Weston, WV 26452.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *At Home:* Bill & Carol Stillwell, Russell Martin, Linda Wiersbicki, Fred Larrimore, Blondenia Orr, Betty Henthorne, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. *FOX NURSING HOME:* Mary Jane Bowers (Room 19), Mary Nelson. *CROSSROADS:* Sarah Miller, Jim Mick. *CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:* Arlen Webb, Ella Beagle. *VALLEY HAVEN, BEECH BOTTOM, WV:* Warner Haught (Skip's Dad). *IN FLORIDA:* Ilene Rayl.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Steelton.....	Mar. 11-15.....	Steve Stevens
Hillview Terrace, Moundsville.....	Mar. 11-16.....	Ed Melott
Pennsboro.....	Mar. 11-16.....	Randy Cook
Hanoverton.....	Mar. 18-22.....	Rico Brown
Glen Easton.....	Mar. 18-23.....	Peter Ray Cole
Barnesville, OH.....	Mar. 25-29.....	Wes McAdams

INDESTRUCTIBLE BOOK

Many men have tried to destroy the Bible. In A.D. 303, the Roman Emperor Diocletian issued an edict to destroy Christians and their Bibles. Over a burned Bible, he built a monument on which he wrote these words, *Extincto mome ne Christianorum* (meaning "the name of Christian is extinguished") Twenty years later, Diocletian was dead and the new Emperor Constantine commissioned fifty copies of the Bible to be prepared at government expense.

In 1776, the French philosopher Voltaire said, "One hundred years from my day, there will not be a Bible in the earth except one that is looked upon by some antique seeker." One hundred years from the day of Voltaire's prediction, the first edition of his works sold for eleven cents in Paris, but the British government paid Russia half a million dollars for an ancient Bible manuscript.

It truly is interesting to read what men have tried to do with God's Word, which shall stand forever. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

- Author Unknown (*House to House-Heart to Heart*)

"The word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." 1 Peter 1:25