

# Music in the Local Church

- I. The purpose of music
  - a. Entertainment
    - i. Purely secular
    - ii. Christian music for entertainment
  - b. Worship
    - i. In the church
    - ii. In our devotions (personal)
- II. What is the message of the song?
  - a. Is it doctrinally sound?
  - b. Is it glorifying to God?
  - c. Is the message clear or ambiguous?
  - d. Could this song just as easily be a love song?
- III. Music in the Word of God
  - a. Israelites known for their music – Ps. 137:1-3
  - b. Christ & Disciples sang – Matt. 26:27-30
  - c. Paul & Silas sang – Acts 16:25-26
  - d. Dedication of Temple – II Chron. 5:11-14
- IV. Function of music in the church
  - a. Unity in Praise and Worship
    - i. Aspects of Worship – Heb. 10:22
      1. A true heart
      2. Full assurance of faith
      3. Sprinkled from an evil conscience
    - ii. Results of Worship

1. Evangelism of the lost
2. Edification of the believer

V. Need for Standards

- a. The battle within – Gal. 5:19-21
- b. The battle without – II Cor. 6:17
- c. Winning the battle
- d. Standards for Selection of music
  - i. Right balance between melody, harmony and rhythm?
  - ii. Is the composition associated with worldly philosophy?
  - iii. Is the text doctrinally sound?
  - iv. Is the style of text appropriate? Do they use slang?
  - v. What is the testimony of the performer?
  - vi. Performance techniques appropriate?
    1. Modesty
    2. Appearance
    3. Sincerity

VI. Music principles in practice

- a. Congregational singing
  - Energetically, Spiritually, Timing
- b. Vocal music
- c. Instrumental music

## VII. Our Music Standards

1. Not ambiguous – clear message in words
2. Easy to sing melody
3. No definite/heavy beat
4. Not something that could easily be played on Pop radio
5. Easy for people/children to sing along