



PRIORITIES

A SERIES ON PENTECOSTALISM

SPIRITUAL SONGS

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery.

Ephesians 5:15-20

Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:15-20

Too many Christians have
stopped singing

“Somehow, about forty percent of churchgoers seem to have picked up the idea that "singing in church is for singers." The truth is that "singing is for believers." The relevant question is not, "Do you have a voice?" but "Do you have a song?"

- Donald Hustad -



1) FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

(vs. 15-18)

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:15-18

What overflows out of you
is characteristic of what has
filled you

¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.” ¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

Acts 2:13-17

¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose.
It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is
what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ ““In
the last days, God says, I will pour out my
Spirit on all people.

Acts 2:13-17

Paul challenged the Ephesians
towards greater spiritual vitality,
to move beyond believing what
Christians believe and to start
behaving the way Christians ought
to behave

The Holy Spirit is not narrowly focused on behaviour modification, but widely focused on life transformation

What the Spirit does inside you individually is meant to change your sphere of influence.

What the Spirit does inside us corporately is meant to change our world.



2) SONGS FROM THE WORD

(vs. 18-19a)

Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18b-19a

Our singing has a horizontal
dimension

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16

“What Pentecostals sing becomes what they believe and reaffirms their theology. Caution to all worship leaders as they influence one's theologizing.”

- Dr. Van Johnson -

Regulative Principle: We only use elements that scripture explicitly prescribes for worship

Normative Principle: We use any elements that scripture does not prohibit for worship



A) SING PSALMS

There is a place for singing older
songs in every congregation



B) SING HYMNS

³ He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of
praise to our God.

Psalm 40:3

There is a place for singing newer
songs in every congregation

¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among
you richly

Colossians 3:16

New Testament Christ-Hymns:

Colossians 1:15-20,
Philippians 2:6-11
1 Timothy 3:16

New Testament Doxologies:

APOSTLE PAUL

Romans 11:33-36

Romans 16:25-27

Ephesians 3:20-21

1 Timothy 1:17

1 Timothy 6:15-16

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Hebrews 13:20-21

New Testament Doxologies:

APOSTLE PETER

2 Peter 3:18

JUDE

1:24-25

APOSTLE JOHN

Revelation 1:6

We sing psalms and hymns
whenever we sing songs that are
grounded in scripture. By doing
this, the Holy Spirit always
receives the royalties for each
inspired composition



3) SONGS FROM THE SPIRIT

(vs. 19b-20)

[Sing] songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:19b-20

²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must
worship in the Spirit and in truth.

John 4:24

¹⁵ So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit,
but I will also pray with my understanding; I
will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing
with my understanding.

1 Corinthians 14:15

Our singing has a vertical
dimension

Songs from the Word of God
are concrete, but songs from
the Spirit of God are creative.
We must learn to appreciate
the diversity.

“There is a distinctly artistic character to the Spirit’s work. Making and remaking; perfecting and forming—this is what the Spirit does”.

- Steven R. Guthrie -

¹³ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

James 5:13



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