

# Sing!



## Sermon Outline 1

Sermon Title: “Created, Commanded, and Compelled to...Sing!”

### I. **Introduction: Five goals of this new sermon series**

- a. To discover why we sing and the overwhelming joy and holy privilege that comes with singing
- b. To consider how singing impacts our hearts and minds and all of our lives
- c. To cultivate a culture of family singing in our daily home life
- d. To equip our church for wholeheartedly singing to the Lord and one another as an expression of unity
- e. To inspire us to see congregational singing as a radical witness to the world

### II. **Three points**

- a. Point 1: Created to sing
  - i. We are all singers (Psalm 139:4)
  - ii. What if I’m not a good singer? (God cares more about the heart than the talent)
  - iii. All of creation sings (Psalm 98:4–9)
- b. Point 2: Commanded to sing
  - i. Psalm 149:1
  - ii. There are over four hundred references to singing in the Bible, and more than fifty direct commands to do so
- c. Point 3: Compelled to sing
  - i. Saved people are singing people
  - ii. Worship is a response to revelation
  - iii. The Scriptures are full of salvation songs (particularly the Psalms)

### III. **Conclusion**

- a. We sing because we are created to, commanded to, and compelled to
- b. When we sing great truths, great things happen

## SUGGESTED SONGS

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- My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less • Before the Throne of God Above • In Christ Alone

# Sing!



Sermon Outline 2

Sermon Title: “Sing!...with Heart and Mind”

## I. Introduction: “You are what you eat”

- a. People say you are what you eat; in other words, what you take in will shape who you are
- b. You are what you *sing*
- c. The songs we sing shape our hearts and our minds

## II. Three Points

- a. Point 1: Singing sustains
  - i. It carries Sunday’s truths into Monday
  - ii. It carries us through every season of life
    1. The Psalms give us examples of songs for every season of life
    2. Psalm 75; Psalm 23; Psalm 15; Psalm 2; Psalm 19; Psalm 29; Psalm 56; Psalm 25
- b. Point 2: Singing reminds
  - i. It reminds us of what God has already done for us in Christ
  - ii. It reminds us of what God is going to do for us
- c. Point 3: An appetite for singing
  - i. We need to grow our appetites for good soul food—congregational singing
  - ii. We grow it by focusing while we sing at church, and by following up and singing the songs throughout the week

## III. Conclusion: If we are what you sing...

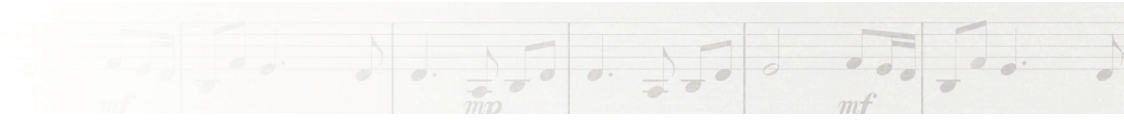
- a. ...then we ought to sing the rich truths of the gospel!
- b. ...then we ought to be singing these songs often, so they can sustain us and remind us!

## SUGGESTED SONGS

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• Rock of Ages • Great Is Thy Faithfulness • By Faith

# Sing!



Sermon Outline 3

Sermon Title: "Sing!...with Your Family"

## I. Introduction: The practice of the Puritans

- a. The Puritans would not let men take communion if they were not leading their families in family devotion, prayer, and singing
- b. We are *not* suggesting a return to that practice! However, we should learn from the intentionality they placed on family singing

## II. Read Deuteronomy 6:5-7

- a. Discipleship starts in the home
- b. We cannot obey this passage unless our homes are filled with songs of worship

## III. Singing at home helps us create...

- a. ...a culture of singing
- b. ...memorable understanding
  - i. Singing rich, biblical music gets the gospel into the hearts and minds of our children
  - ii. It teaches them truth in the most memorable way...through song!
- c. ...the sound of home in church
  - i. If children are used to singing in the home, they will be more engaged singing at church
  - ii. If singing is normal at home, it will not feel abnormal at church

## IV. Conclusion: Ten practical ideas

- a. Use all the help and opportunities you can get
- b. Teach your kids songs you want them to grow old with
- c. Talk about what you're doing and what the songs mean
- d. Prepare for Sunday services
- e. Model passionate participation in the services
- f. Be aware of all the music your kids are into
- g. If your kids are into music...encourage them!
- h. Support the church's singing programs (choir, children's choir, worship ministry)
- i. Cultivate high opinions of all types of art
- j. Sing *today*

## SUGGESTED SONGS

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- Be Thou My Vision • Jesus Shall Reign • The Power of the Cross

# Sing!



Sermon Outline 4

Sermon Title: "Sing!...with the Local Church"

## I. Introduction: The life of the church

- a. Read Ephesians 5:5–21
- b. "The most perfect way that we have of expressing a sweet concord of mind to each other is by music."  
(Jonathan Edwards)

## II. Three Points

- a. Point 1: Sing together
  - i. No man is an island
  - ii. You cannot benefit from church merely by consuming; you benefit from church only as you serve your church
  - iii. One way to serve the church is by singing in the church
- b. Point 2: What are we searching for in our congregational singing?
  - i. Creativity
    1. Simplicity is often the highest form of creativity
    2. God is Creator, and we image him by our creativity
  - ii. Communication
    1. Our singing should communicate the deep faith that we have
    2. Our singing should communicate the rich truths of the gospel
  - iii. Community
    1. A church that sings together makes a powerful, attractive statement to those who yearn for community
    2. A Christ-centered church is a church full of people who lay aside personal preference for the good of the community
- c. Point 3: O church arise!
  - i. Singing God's Word together helps us put on our spiritual armor
  - ii. Singing together prepares us to carry God's truth into the spiritual battles we face

## III. Conclusion: What does our singing say?

- a. What does our congregational singing say to one another?
- b. What does our congregational singing say to those watching?

## SUGGESTED SONGS

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• How Deep the Father's Love • Come Thou Fount • O Church Arise

# Sing!



Sermon Outline 5

Sermon Title: "The Radical Witness when Congregations...Sing!"

## I. Introduction: The witness of singing God's glory

- a. Read Psalm 66:2
- b. Like Israel of old and the New Testament church, we publicly proclaim God's glory by singing

## II. Three Points

- a. Point 1: Singing together is always a witness
  - i. Psalm 117
  - ii. Acts 2:46-47
  - iii. Is our singing a powerful witness?
    1. Does our singing reveal a real belief in the real gospel?
    2. Does it reveal joy and hope and passion for Christ?
  - iv. Is our singing a damaging witness?
    1. Deuteronomy 31:19
    2. Hypocritical singing is just as damaging as hypocritical living
- b. Point 2: Singing the gospel
  - i. The gospel is the power to save to all who call upon Jesus
  - ii. Being gospel-lite in our singing is not the way to be attractional; a watered-down gospel cannot save, so our songs should not be watered down either!
- c. Point 3: Facing a task unfinished
  - i. Our hymns do not only help us in mission, they also call us to mission and sustain our mission
  - ii. Our singing is not just a family gathering; the doors are open for all to enter

## III. Conclusion: Witnessing through song

- a. The world needs the gospel
- b. We share the gospel not only by speaking it or showing it; we can share the gospel, as a church, by singing it!

## SUGGESTED SONGS

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• Amazing Grace • It Is Well • Speak, O Lord

# Sing!



Sermon Outline 6  
Sermon Title: "Will You Sing?"

## I. Introduction: The story of Evan Roberts

- a. Evan Roberts was a Welsh revival preacher in the early twentieth century. When asked if he thought the revival could reach the British capital, Roberts is said to have smiled and asked, "Can you sing?" (from the postlude, "Will You Sing?")
- b. His point in asking was not about how well one can sing; his point was that *if* we will sing, the gospel will be heard

## II. Will you sing?

- a. After all we have learned in this series...
  - i. ...that we are created, commanded, and compelled to sing (review)...
  - ii. ...that we are called to sing with our families (review)...
  - iii. ...that we are called to sing with the local church (review)...
  - iv. ...that our singing is a radical witness (review)...
  - v. ...will you commit to be a singing Christian, a singing family member, and a singing church member?
- b. The goal of this sermon series is that you would sing truth, and sing it as though it really is true

## III. Hymn sing

- a. Announce the church's coming hymn sing
- b. Ask members to make a commitment to come, to sing, and to bring others

## SUGGESTED SONGS

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- Come People of the Risen King • All Creatures of our God and King • In Christ Alone