

November 28, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

Col. 3:16 *Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. (NIV)*

If the sparrow can sing out praise to the LORD, why can't we? Now I've heard all the excuses before. 'I can't carry a tune in a bucket.' 'If I sing, the heavens will close.' Folks, where does it say that we have to sing with a perfect voice? Our singing praise is not about us, it's about Him. Now that I have grandchildren, it doesn't matter if they sing precisely on key or not. Their music is wonderful and it fills my soul to hear it. How much more does our Heavenly Father love to hear His children sing praises to Him? We are to teach each other. We are to encourage each other. And we are to sing psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit to God!

If you are singing so that others can be impressed with your voice, then that's exactly what you will receive in return. Read through the account in **1 Sam. 16** as Samuel went to the home of Jesse to find the next appointed king for Israel. He was impressed by the stature, looks and abilities of many of Jesse's sons. **1 Sam. 16:7** *But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."* (NIV)

Now I'm not saying that we shouldn't try to sing on key, but I am saying, the only thing that truly matters is our heart. Paul says we should be singing because of our gratitude to the LORD. What are you grateful for? Tell Him. Sing to Him. Write it down. Don't keep it in but let it out. **Ps. 145:18-19** *The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him; He hears their cry and saves them.* (NIV)

Dear LORD, help us to not be so self-conscious but instead focused on You. You deserve all the praise we can give and even more. Help us not to be silent. Let us sing praise to You. If we don't, the rocks and the hills will cry out. In Jesus Name, Amen