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http://www.pippincoc.com/

<b>Sunday AM Bible Study</b>	9:30 AM
<b>Sunday AM Worship</b>	10:30 AM
<b>Sunday PM Worship</b>	5:30 PM
<b>Wednesday Bible Class</b>	7:00 PM

#### Elders

<b>Eddie Frizzell</b>	(931) 526-3505
<b>Gary Medley</b>	(931) 528-8768
<b>Roger Mayberry</b>	(931) 537-3265

#### Deacons

<b>Colonel Wheeler</b>	(931) 526-5808
<b>Greg Frizzell</b>	(931) 265-2192
<b>Jonathan Medley</b>	(931) 854-0960
<b>Kale Burchett</b>	(615) 533-9134

#### Preacher

<b>Randy Bybee</b>	(931) 268-0912
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#### Welcome

The Pippin church of Christ extends to you a cordial welcome. We hope the services have been uplifting, and you will want to return at every opportunity.

Our purpose in meeting is to worship God in Spirit and in truth. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24

#### How to Become a Christian

Hear the Word - Romans 10:17  
Believe - Mark 16:15  
Repent of Past Sins - Luke 13:3  
Confess - Romans 10:9  
Be Baptized - Acts 2:38  
Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

#### Radio Programs

The Lord's Way  
AM 920 WLIV - Tuesdays @ 10:10AM

A Challenge to Think  
AM 1400 WHUB - Sundays @ 9:05AM

#### For the Record, Week of 10/23/16

<b>Sunday Class</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Sunday AM</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Sunday PM</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>65</b>

Volume 32, No. 42

## Avoiding Instruments is One Thing; Faithful Singing is Another

*Adam Faughn, October 26, 2016*

There is no way to "rightly divide" Scripture and find authorization to use mechanical instruments of music in worship to the Lord. The New Testament simply does not allow us to use them as we worship God. Passages such as Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16 and Hebrews 13:15 make that abundantly clear. There are Christians who are far more qualified to write on that subject than I am. Many are not "schooled" in formal academics, but they know the Bible, and they can show clearly that we are not to use instruments of music as we worship the Lord together. However, some of those same people do not sing when we worship. They know all the reasons not to use instruments, but they just sit there through the singing. Today, I want us to consider that avoiding singing is just as sinful as adding to our singing.

**"Adding To" vs. "Taking Away"** One of the major arguments against mechanical instruments is that we are adding to a clear command of God, which we simply cannot do. When the Lord tells us to do something, we have no right to add on our own whims and desires to that command. For example, when the Lord makes it clear that we are to eat unleavened bread and drink the fruit of the vine when we commune, we dare not add any other elements to that sacred supper. And, when the Lord commands us to sing, we dare not add mechanical instruments to such a clear command. However, if we just sit there while others are singing, is that not taking away from a command of God? I look out at times across a congregation and I see people who can quote more Scripture than I'll ever be able to, but they are just sitting silently week after week. Such is taking away from God's commands, and it is sinful. How would those same people feel if, next Sunday, we only served the fruit of the vine in communion? They would be up in arms, since we are taking away from a command! But by their silence in singing, so are they.

**Inability to be "Filled with the Spirit"** Ephesians 5:18 gives the command to Christians to "be filled with the Spirit." Over the next three verses, Paul gives several ways that we are filled by the Spirit of God. In that context, one of those ways is "addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart" (v.19). Paul is making it clear that we are filled with the Holy Spirit when we sing to our Lord out of a reverent and worshipful heart. So, when someone refuses to sing, what is the clear implication? He or she is not being filled by the Spirit. I do not know all that is implied by being filled with the Spirit of God, but I know this: I want to be so filled!

**Excuses, Excuses:** Trust me, I have heard every excuse in the book as to why people do not sing. Now, let me say, I am not talking about legitimate excuses. Some are feeling ill and are doing their best just to show up. Others may get emotional over the words of a song and have to gather themselves. Some may not know a song very well but are doing their best to learn so they can sing it next time (or even on the next verse). But there are other excuses that are given, and they just do not hold water for one who is to be worshiping the Lord.

**I Don't Like That Song. So what?** There are songs that I do not personally like all that much, either. But worship is not about my preferences! If a song honors the Lord and teaches Biblical truth, then I need to give Him my all by uttering those words.

**I Don't Like the Song Leader.** Again, there are song leaders who I think do a better job than others, but that man's ability is not what determines my heart-felt praise to the Lord. Admittedly, I might have to work a little harder if a song leader is truly deficient, but if he is leading songs that speak truth to the Lord, then I need to sing.

**I Can't Sing.** What is nearly always meant by this is, "I don't have a great vocal ability." There is not a single command for us to have the voice of an opera singer or Broadway star in order to bring praise to the Lord. In fact, the emphasis is on our heart (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16), not on the quality of our musical abilities.

**Conclusion: Does This Really Matter?** "I worship at a church that doesn't use instruments. I even 'amen' the preacher when he really goes after those instrument-using folks. Doesn't that make me faithful?" Well, in one sense, it does. But, dear Christian, let me lovingly remind us all that Christianity is about far more than just avoiding what is wrong. It is about lovingly, passionately, and reverently doing what is right. It does matter, because our Lord requires us to "continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to [Him], that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name" (Hebrews 13:15). When I just sit and watch as the singing is going on around me, I am being disobedient to a clear command. And for disobedience, we will be judged. So, in the words of one of my favorite old hymns, let's all "Sing, o sing, His praises!"

## SERMON TOPICS

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Morning	<b>Delaying Obedience</b>	Romans 6:17
Evening	<b>The Widow of Zarephath</b>	1 Kings 17:12,13

## PRAYER LIST

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**BOBBY VINSON** - continues to struggle with health issues. He is scheduled to have back surgery at St. Thomas.

**ELI WHITLOW** - 4 year old great nephew of Bill and Mary Martin has kidney failure and is in need of prayers.

**JOHN PAINTER** - friend of Randy and Denise Bybee is suffering from terminal cancer. After much study, he and his wife, Mazelle were baptized into Christ Friday, October 28.

**LOGAN RAMSEY** - cousin of Allen Cantrell, was injured by a bull and flown to Skyline Medical Center. He is going to be okay, but has suffered some broken ribs and has a punctured lung.

**THOMAS KERR** - co-worker of James Scott recently suffered an injury when some work equipment fell on him and broke both legs. In addition to this, his wife has cancer and is preparing to begin treatments.

**THOSE BATTLING ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES** - Burt Montgomery (co-worker of Josh Lawson), Cathy Phillips (cousin of Geneva Smallwood), Debbie Hensley (daughter of Vestle Hensley), Herbie Fox (nephew of Geneva Smallwood), Karma Carter (wife of Jonathan Carter, nephew of Denise York), Marie Eckel, Pam Heidel (friend of Betty Boswell)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### November 6 - Men's Business Meeting

There will be a men's business meeting Sunday, November 6 at 4:00pm.

### November 6 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

Remember to adjust your clocks back one hour Saturday night before Sunday, November 6.

### November 6 - Ron Gilbert

Brother Ron Gilbert will be visiting with us Sunday evening, November 6 to give an update on the missionary work we help support.

### November 12 - Ladies Day at Findlay church of Christ

Findlay church of Christ, in Sparta, will host a ladies day November 12 with guest speaker Donna Faughn. Registration begins at 8:30 am. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

### November 22 - Thanksgiving Mid-Week Bible Study Change

The mid-week Bible study for the week of Thanksgiving week will be moved to Tuesday night, November 22.

### Electronic Bulletins

If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of the bulletin prior to Sunday via email, you can sign up at [www.pippincoc.com](http://www.pippincoc.com) and enter your email address in the box on the right of the page.

## All Month - October

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<b>Table</b>	James Scott
<b>Table Assist</b>	Andrew Pippin Andrew Scott Chad York Vestle Hensley

### Sunday AM Worship

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<b>Announcements</b>	Lester Boles
<b>Lead Singing</b>	Jonathan Medley
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Gary Medley
<b>First Prayer</b>	Colonel Wheeler
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Joe Brown
<b>Greet at Door</b>	Colonel & Ida Wheeler
<b>Slide Production</b>	Kale Burchett

### Sunday PM Worship

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<b>Announcements</b>	Lester Boles
<b>Lead Singing</b>	James Gravelle
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Wendall Smallwood
<b>First Prayer</b>	Roger Mayberry
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Josh Lawson
<b>Slide Production</b>	Kale Burchett

### Wednesday Bible Class

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<b>Announcements</b>	Lester Boles
<b>Lead Singing</b>	Andrew Pippin
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Matt Donegan
<b>First Prayer</b>	Gary Medley
<b>Last Prayer</b>	James Scott
<b>Slide Production</b>	Kale Burchett

### Daily Bible Reading

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Jeremiah 27-29; Hebrews 5	10/30
Jeremiah 50; Hebrews 6	10/31
Jeremiah 51,30; Hebrews 7	11/1
Jeremiah 31-32; Hebrews 8	11/2
Jeremiah 33,21; Hebrews 9	11/3
Jeremiah 34,37,38; Hebrews 10:1-18	11/4
Jeremiah 39,52,40; Hebrews 10:19-39	11/5

### Question for the Week

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During the days of what prophet did God make an axe head float?

### Answer to Previous Question

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How many half-brothers and half-sisters did Jesus have?

At least six; Mt. 13:55,56