

Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way



August 15, 2021

Proverbs 9:16
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58



Soli Geo Gloria

Object: A hymnal (and perhaps a picture of Bach)

I think that one of the greatest gifts that God has given us is the gift of music. Have you ever heard of a composer by the name of Johann Sebastian Bach? Bach lived about 250 years ago and he is considered by many people to be one of the greatest composers who ever lived. You might be surprised to learn that some of Bach's music is still in our hymnals today.

Whenever Bach wrote a piece of music, he always wrote the letters S.D.G. at the bottom of the music. Those letters stand for the words Soli Deo Gloria which means "To God alone be the glory." You see, Bach realized that his music was a gift from God and that he had a responsibility to use his gift to the glory of God.

Music is a very important part of our worship. The Bible says, "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord."

Some people come to worship, but they never sing. They have a lot of excuses for not singing. Here are some of the excuses I have heard over the years.

"I can't carry a tune in a bucket." Sorry, but that excuse won't hold water. The Bible doesn't say, "Sing to the Lord with a beautiful voice." It says, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

Another excuse I hear is, "I don't like the songs we sing." That excuse won't work either. Why? Because the songs aren't for us, they are for God. Since God created the gift of music, I think He probably likes all kinds of music!

Here's an excuse I've heard many times. "I don't know that song." The Bible says, "Sing unto the Lord a new song." How can we sing a new song to the Lord, if we won't even try to learn it?

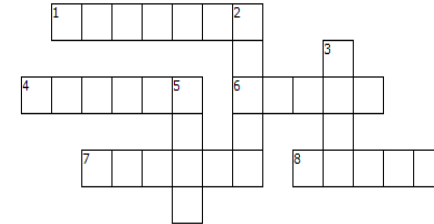
Do you know what I think? I think it is time for us to stop making excuses and use whatever musical gift God has given us to glorify Him. Soli Deo Gloria! To God alone be the glory!

Thank you, Father, for the gift of music. May we always use that gift to sing and make music in our hearts to the Lord. Amen.

Making Music to the Lord

Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord. Ephesians 5:19b (NIV)

Based on Ephesians 5:15-20



ACROSS

- Lacking good sense or judgment; silly; opposite of wise
- An Old Testament book of songs of praise to God
- The art of arranging sounds using melody, rhythm, and harmony
- An expression of gratitude
- The organ that pumps blood through our bodies

DOWN

- Songs of praise and thanksgiving to God that we sing in church
- Having the ability to make right and sensible decisions; to have good judgment
- A short musical composition written for singing

WISE	PSALMS	MUSIC	FOOLISH
THANKS	HYMNS	HEART	SONG

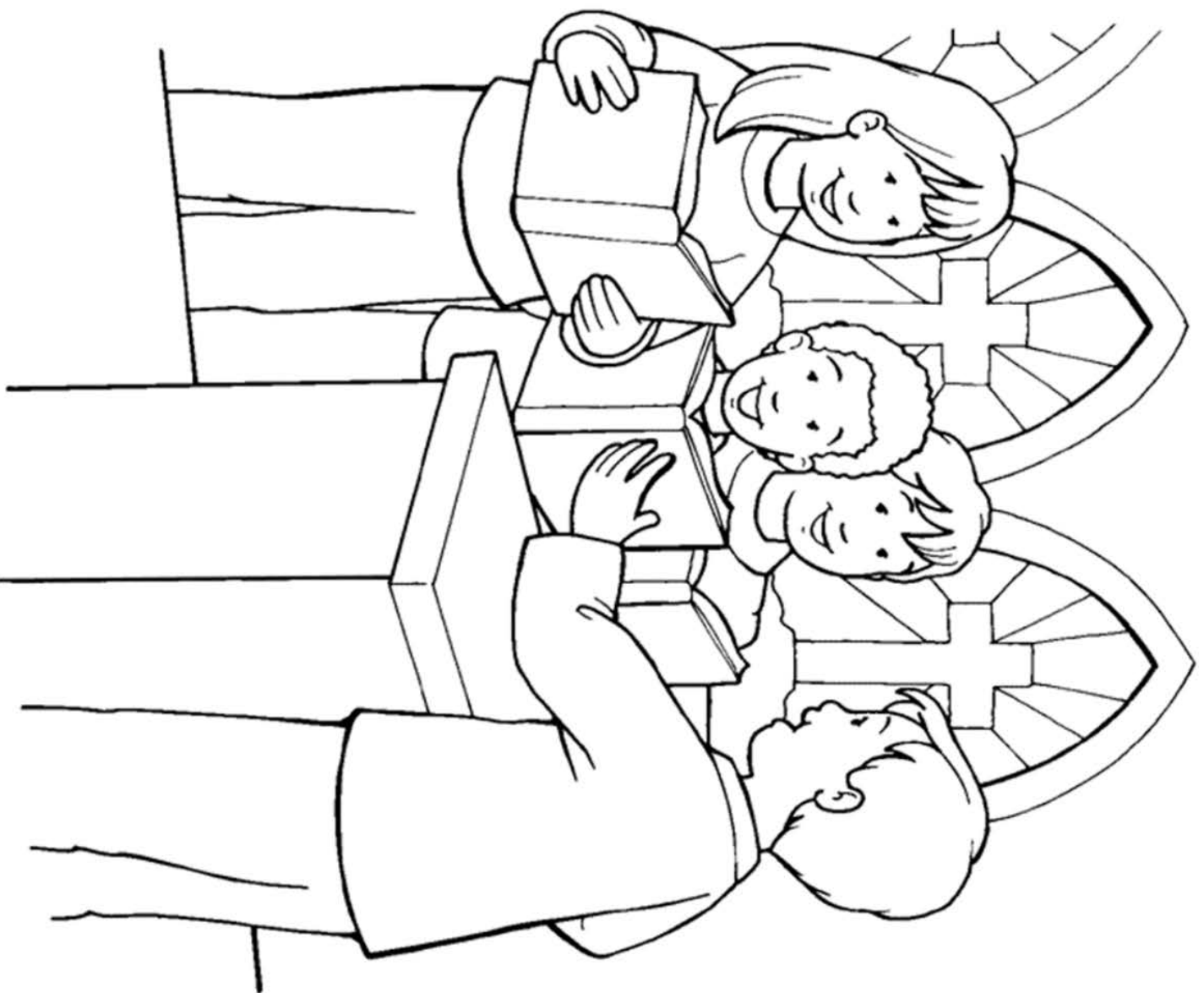
DRUM BUILDING: Give each child an old coffee can or something similar with a plastic lid. Let the children cover the drum with two pieces of construction paper and decorate the sides of the drum with yarn that can be glued onto the paper. If desired, give each child a round piece of cloth that will cover the top of the drum and hang over the sides. Use a large rubber band or tie a piece of yarn around the cloth to keep the cloth in place. Provide children with two small wooden dowels (or spoons) to beat the drum. SING a song together with the drums quietly beating in the background. Fill the drum with hard candy and turn it into a shaker to make a different sound!

Family Table Prayer for August

God is great, God is good.
Let us thank God for our food.
By God's hands we all are fed.
Thank you Lord for our daily bread.
Amen.

August Memory Verse: I praise you God, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

~ Psalm 139:14



Let's praise Jesus!