

# THE THINGS WE DO

May 28, 2023 | Reggie Roberson

**WARM UP QUESTIONS:** What is your favorite song? Why?

**READ:** Psalm 96

**FOCUS:** Singing is a critical part of how God designed us, and when we sing to Him, He is honored, praised and celebrated.

**OBSERVE:**

- Why do we sing together?
  - We are created to sing (vv.4-5): We will either worship the living God or false idols.
  - We are commanded to sing: In Psalm 96, every instance of “sing,” “declare,” “praise” or “ascribe” are imperatives or commands. Singing is the second-most commanded Christian practice in the Bible.
  - We are compelled to sing (vv.2-3): True worship is rooted in the revelation of God’s character and salvation – who He is and what He has done for us.
- Yet sometimes we struggle to sing together, why?
  - We think we are not the type to sing: If you can speak, you can sing. God is far less concerned with whether you can keep a tune than our integrity.
  - We are singing another song: Something else has captured our affection and our attention.
  - We experience personal struggles: Someone we used to sing with is not present. Something has gone wrong in a relationship or at work. Spiritual warfare has made it difficult to sing.
  - We become busy and distracted: We feel too busy or overwhelmed with the cares of everyday life.
- Who do we become as a people as we sing together?
  - A unified people forged together through common worship regardless of age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender or political affiliation.
  - A people of God’s presence: God inhabits the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3).
  - An overcoming and enduring people: Praise is a weapon to fight and win battles of depression, anxiety and discouragement (2 Chronicles 20:21-22).
  - A joyful people focused on the hope and joy of God’s unseen and eternal kingdom.
  - A missional people: We are not created to keep quiet about the things which bring us joy and pleasure; we are created to share God’s goodness through song and deed.
  - A people who live like Jesus: Jesus worshipped His Father through song.

**TAKING ACTION:**

- Make singing a part of your daily routine. Spend five minutes worshipping God through song every day this week.

**REFLECT:**

- Which surprises you most: that God creates us to sing, commands us to sing or that we are compelled to sing?
- Is there anything that makes you shy away from singing?
- What aspects of singing together and who we become as a community resonate most with you?

**PRAY:** God, You are worthy of our praise, song and adoration. You sing and rejoice over us as a loving Father. Help us turn away from the worship of false gods and remove the inhibitions and distractions that keep us from wholehearted devotion to You. As we sing, let our worship transform our hearts to be more like Jesus and draw people to Yourself. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

