

## Worship – Lesson 6

The importance of music because of its structure.

“Make a joyful noise” – Psalm 95:1, 2; 98:4; 100:1

*Ruah* – a shout (usually before or after battle, but often as a call to worship)

In the above contexts, singing or playing music is the result of the shout.

Example hymn – 195 – Nothing But The Blood

Consider the lyrics:

Do they glorify God?

Are they Biblically accurate?

Do they reflect the reality of my heart?

Consider the music:

Rhythm:

Beat – The pulse that establishes the speed of flow (1,2; 1,2,3; 1,2,3,4)

Simple subdivision – two halves (1,1; 2,2; 1,1; 2,2)

Compound subdivisions – three thirds (1,1,1; 2,2,2; 3,3,3)

Tempo – The speed of the beat

Meter – The grouping of beats into patterns

A measure is how the pattern is established

Melody:

A coherent succession of pitches, notes, or tones.

Scale – the arrangement of notes into a familiar pattern

Contour – the movement of notes up and down to indicate movement

Stepwise motion – the movement to the next note

Leap motion – the movement that skips notes

Harmony:

The relationship of notes that are sounded simultaneously

Interval – two notes sounded at once and the distance between them

Chord – three or more notes sounded at once

Major chords sound happy and cheerful

Minor chords sound melancholy and sad

Consonant – harmonies sound pleasant together

Dissonant – harmonies sound awful and unmusical

Timbre:

The character of a sound

Instrumentation is the biggest factor to timbre

Attack or articulation impacts timbre

Sustained pitch carries the timbre.

Vibrato is a variation of pitch while sustaining the note.

#### Dynamics:

The aspect of music relating to its loudness

Fortissimo (ff) – very loud

Forte (f) – loud

Mezzo forte (mf) – medium loud

Mezzo piano (mp) – medium soft

Piano (p) – soft

Pianissimo (pp) – very soft

Crescendo (cresc.) – build loudness

Diminuendo (dim.) – soften

#### Texture:

The pattern of sound created by the interaction of musical contributors

Monophony – a single line of music

Solo – a single performer

Unison – multiple performers on the same line

Heterophony – multiple performers on the same line, but one adds ornamentation, tricks, or decoration

Homophony – One voice is melody, others offer harmony

Polyphony – also known as counterpoint is the independent movement of several voices.

#### Form:

The shape of the musical arrangement as it repeats or introduces new segments.

Stanza – The new lyrical material in the song

Chorus – The repeated lyrical material in the song