

Worship in Spirit and Truth:**“Joining in God’s Song”**

Psalm 96: 1-4; Zephaniah 3: 14-17; Colossians 3: 15-17; and Revelation 7: 9-12

Thoughts to Shape and Spark Discussion:

*“To Christ the Lord let every tongue
Its noblest tribute bring.
When He’s the subject of the song,
Who can refuse to sing?
Survey the beauties of His face
And on His glories dwell.
Think of the wonder of His grace
And all His triumphs tell.*

*Since from His bounty I receive
Such proofs of love divine,
Had I a thousand hearts to give
Lord, they should all be Thine!
A thousand men could not compose
A worthy song to bring,
Yet Your love is a melody*

Our hearts can’t help but sing!” – Samuel Stennett

“Words and music did for me what solid, even rigorous religious argument could never do, they introduced me to God, not belief in God, more an experiential sense of God.” – Bono

“Chant down Babylon with music!” – Bob Marley

Themes and Questions to Guide Reflection and Response:

- After reading through the passage together, ask your group what makes an impression upon them from the passage and why it strikes them.
- Ask folks in your group to consider the quotations above. What does it spark in them?
- What event or congregation or musical style has been most conducive for worship for you personally? Which has been most challenging? Why do you think that is the case? What role has personal preference played in those experiences?
- What are some songs, hymns, and spiritual songs that encourage you and are shaping you as a believer? Are there songs that we are missing out on at Hope Church?
- What difference does it make to you that God sings over you? Is this awkward or delightful? What are some times you have heard the music of God’s rejoicing over you with gladness?
- Have you ever considered joining in God’s song as a help to other worshippers, even a mission to those outside of the church?