



The Worship No One Sees

by Paul Ferrin

Former Director of the National Music Department, Springfield, Missouri

“From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise.”
Psalm 8:2

Giving praise through music, and praise flowing from children to the throne of God, has been ordained by God. In other Scripture passages are phrases such as, “Let the little children come to me,” and, “Unless you...become like little children.”

Our Lord loved infants and children. He saw in them an innocence and sincerity often lacking in adults. When toddlers are taught to worship and love God, they do it without pretense and with complete trust. Their minds have not yet been contaminated by the filth of this world. It is easy for them to praise the Lord with purity of heart, soul, and mind.

The Worship God Sees

A minister in a fashionable church had a dream in which he saw himself standing by the throne of God. As he looked down on earth, he saw his congregation and the 100-voice choir at Sunday worship. Although he saw the lips of the choir and congregation moving in song, the only sound that rose

to heaven was that of one solitary voice.

He asked the Lord, “Why is it, Lord, that out of a congregation of many hundreds and a choir of 100 highly trained voices, I can hear only a single voice?”

The Lord replied, “The only sound that reaches heaven is the sound of heartfelt praise—anything less is lost on the way up.”



As the minister looked more closely, he saw that the solitary voice reaching heaven was that of a little boy—who was not even in the choir—as he sang the praises of God with utter delight and sincerity.¹ It is important to teach even the smallest child that he can worship and love God with all of his heart.

Graded-Choir Ministry

Children's choirs are an

excellent vehicle by which children can be taught not only music, but also how to worship and love God. This also prepares them for worship in Sunday School, children's church, and adult worship services. I am not referring to the occasional children's Christmas or Easter presentation, but to an ongoing time of teaching.

If your Sunday School has classes for various grades, you can have a graded-choir program. The Sunday School, children's church, and graded-choir program can all work hand-in-hand in equipping children to love, worship, and praise the Lord, along with teaching them the basics of music.

Children's Music Material

A wide variety of materials is available from almost every publisher. Look for varied styles and subjects, but don't forget to include some contemporary choruses along with hymns and gospel songs. Here are some ideas to help you in your search:

- Top contemporary Christian songs arranged for and sung by children.
- Christmas music using many different characters to tell the familiar story.

