

Elementary Children's Church

Lesson 34

Why do we openly worship the Lord
(with a loud voice and even raise up our hands.)

1. When one truly sees the unconditional, unmerited, grace, favor, and love of God you can't help but praise the Lord. And God himself desires that kind of worship, and is searching for the true worshippers to worship Him in spirit and in truth: **John 4:23. Psalm 98:4** may say it best, "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a **loud** noise, and rejoice, and sing praise." This verse tells us not to be shy but to Bless the Lord, oh my soul and all that is within me, **Psalm 103:1**. The two words "loud voice" are found 50 times in the bible, and I believe no coincidence that the number 50 is the number for Pentecost. Oh what sweet moment of a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and fire sitting on those disciples on the day of Pentecost (**Acts 2:2&3**). Jesus Christ, when He died on the cross and gave up the ghost cried out with a loud voice (**Mark 15:37**).

2. A loud voice is not just to make noise, but to thank Him openly without inhibition, 1. for the great love wherewith He loves us, and 2. at times of great sorrow and heart ache. This is openly saying to the Lord I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. At midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. I'm confident their voices were not quiet, for all the prisoners heard them, and there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. The Holy Spirit hits like fire, and when fire gets to rolling it roars like the lion of Judah.

3. Raising hands to heaven is called for over and over in the Bible. Moses raised His hands to God with the help of Aaron so to prevail in battle. **Psalm 28:2** says to lift up hands toward the holy oracle, to God and His throne. Surrendering our mouths and bodies to God is precious to the Lord, and it gives strength, rest, and comfort to His children.