



Ladies Class & Instrumental Music



THE QUESTION

Recently I was challenged and called a hypocrite because of the fact that we have a ladies Bible class, which has no recording in the Bible, therefore puts that topic in a gray area. They asked me “since you have a ladies Bible class taught by a woman, which there is no recording of in the Bible, then why do you not use instrumental music in worship, which is not recorded in the Bible as something to do or don’t do



THE QUESTION

... which also puts it in the gray area? I said nothing because I wasn't sure what to say. He answered saying, "Well then that makes you and your church hypocritical, because you cannot say one topic in a gray area is okay, and then disapprove of another topic."



Considerations

- **The Bible does not teach in “gray areas” but by *AUTHORITY***
- **The New Testament church was governed by specific laws during the time of worship**
- **The “Bible class” is an expediency created by man**



How To Establish Authority

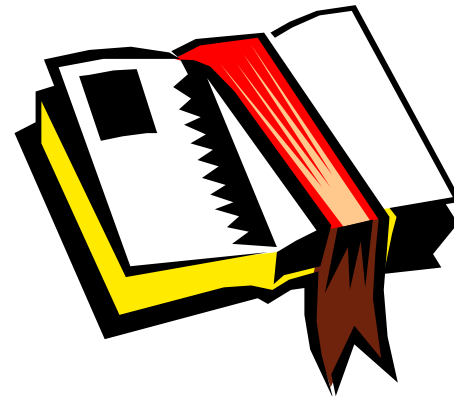
- **Authority is required**
Matthew 21:23 *God or man?*
- **Gray areas are never authority**
 - There must be authority for a ladies Bible class!
 - There must be authority for the use of instrumental music!

How To Establish Authority

- How do we establish authority?

Acts 15 *Conflict over circumcision*

- Direct command or precept **(13-21)**
- Approved example **(v12)**
- Necessary inference or implication or conclusion **(vv6-11)**



How To Establish Authority

- **Authority for ladies Bible class**

A Bible class is for the express purpose of learning

– **2 Timothy 2:15**

– **Romans 10:17**



- **Examples of NT Bible classes**

– **Acts 10:3** *Home of Cornelius*

– **Acts 13:44** *Hear the word of God*

– **Acts 18:26** *Aquila & Priscilla*

How To Establish Authority

- Does a ladies Bible class fall under the authority of scripture?

- *Command*
- *Example*
- *Necessary Inference*

- Role of the woman

Titus 2:1-5

- *Women teaching women*



How To Establish Authority

- **A ladies Bible class is the expediency of the command to teach.**
 - *This can be done in many locations*
 - *Home, store, park bench, school auditorium, class room furnished by the church*
 - *A ladies Bible class does not change the command to teach*



How To Establish Authority

- Is there authority for instrumental music ?
 - *Authority is established by command, example and necessary inference*



- New Testament music
 - Command **Ephesians 5:19**
 - Example **1 Corinthians 14:15**
 - N/Inference **James 5:13**

How To Establish Authority

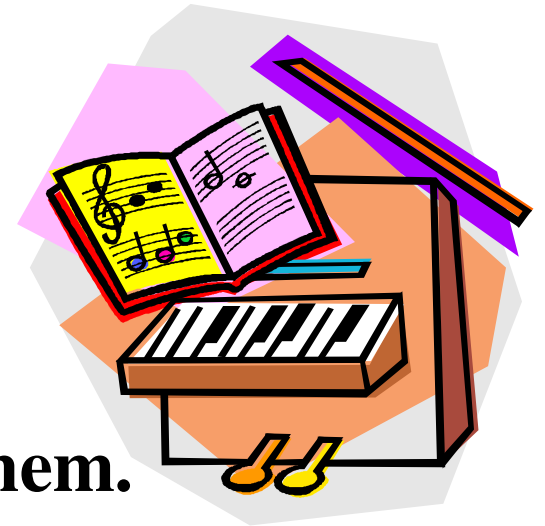
- Use of instrumental music can only be established by authority.
 - There is **NONE!**
 - History shows there is **NONE!**
 - Early writers show there is **NONE!**



NT MUSIC = SING

How To Establish Authority

- “The church rings with the noise of trumpets, pipes and dulcimers; and human voices strive to bear their part with them. Men run to the church as to a theatre, to have their ears tickled.”



(MARTIN LUTHER)

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CHANGES
THE COMMAND TO “SING”**



Consideration

- It is important to understand the Bible class system is an expediency of man; separate from a time of worship!
 - Regulations of worship are found in **1 Corinthians 14**
 - There are many things that can be done outside of worship that cannot be done during the worship time!

Authority

Trenton church

*SUNDAY
BIBLE
CLASS*

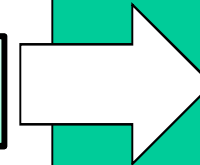
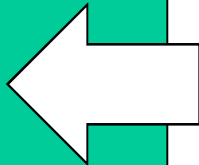
*SUNDAY
AM
WORSHIP*

*SUNDAY
PM
WORSHIP*

*WED.
BIBLE
CLASS*

1 CORINTHIANS 14

EXPEDIENCY



Authority



Trenton church

*SUNDAY
AM
WORSHIP*

*SUNDAY
PM
WORSHIP*

1 CORINTHIANS 14

Authority



Lord's church for nearly 1900 years

SUNDAY

WORSHIP

1 CORINTHIANS 14



Things Not Found In The Bible

For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

(Revelation 22:18-19)



Things Not Found In The Bible

- **Noah was told to build the ark with gopher wood and specific dimensions**

Genesis 6-9

- **Building the ark with maple would have been against the law**
- **Building the ark with a chain saw would have been an expediency (*a really good one*)**

CONCLUSION

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

(2 Timothy 2:15)

