

Designing Your
Own School Program **3**

Voice Culture



A "True Education" Voice Series

“Be not rash with thy mouth,
and let not thine heart
be hasty to utter
any thing before God.”

Ecclesiastes 5:2



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Student Section



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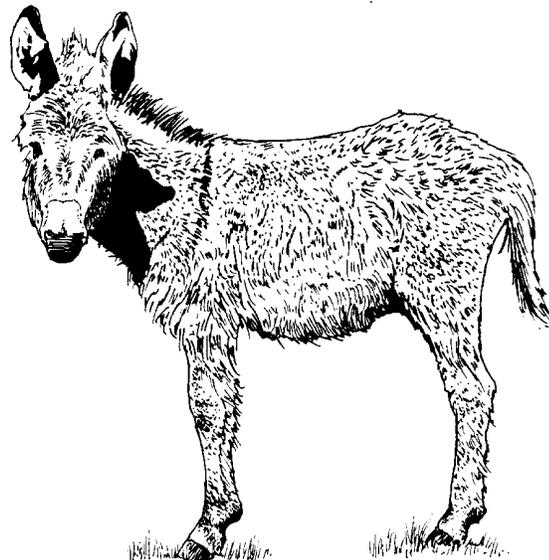
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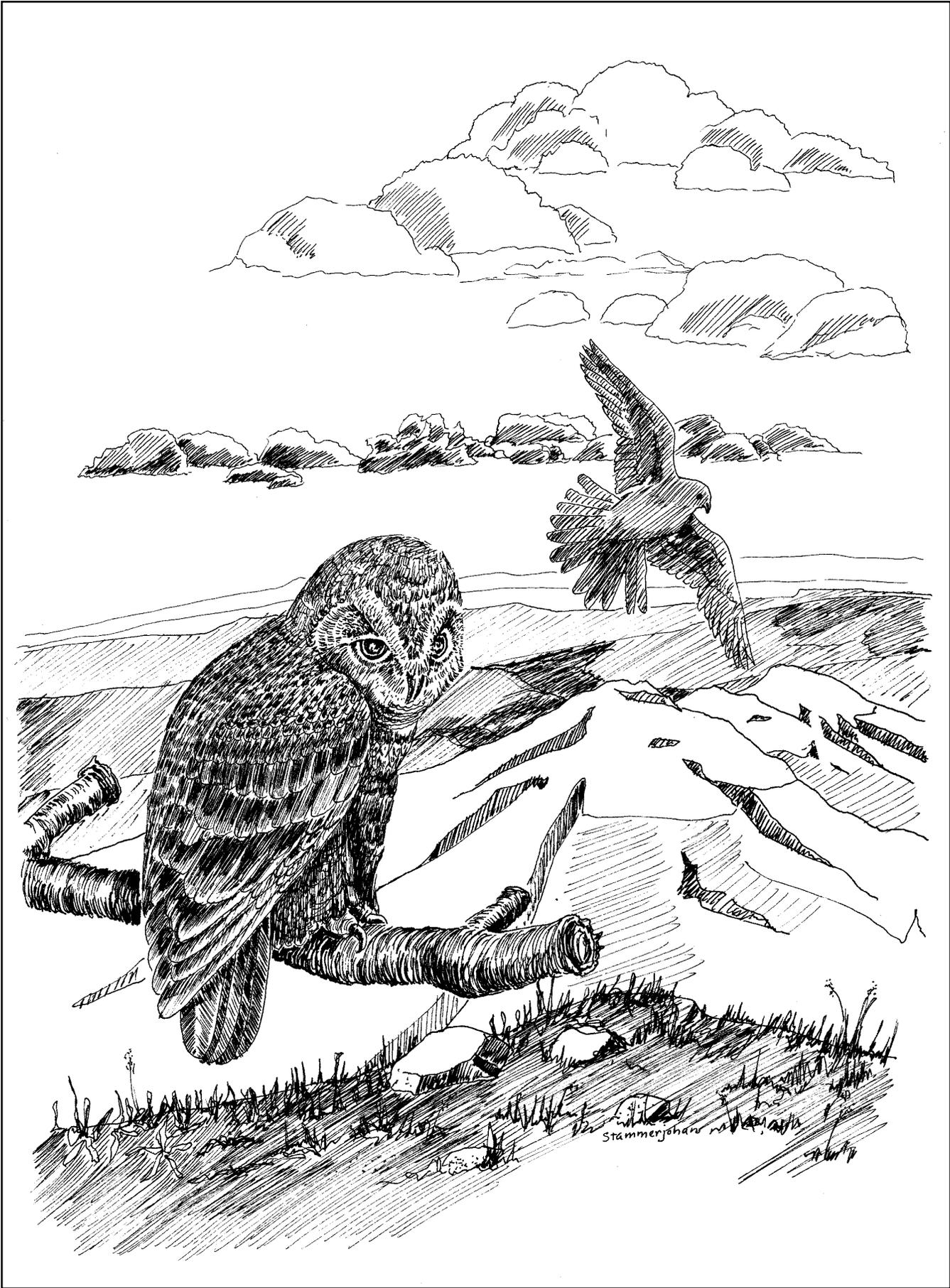
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WHAT ANIMALS
MAKE SWEET SOUNDS
AND WHAT ANIMALS
MAKE UNPLEASANT
SOUNDS?





Stammerjohann

Voice Culture



Research Influence



“I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever:
with my mouth will I make known they faithfulness
to all generations.”

Psalm 89:1

In our study of the different things that are involved in producing a pleasing voice, we will be looking at the correct way of using the different body parts that are involved. But, before we go into these details of technique, it is important for us to consider the influence of the mind and heart on what is spoken or sung.

Our voice is to be used in glorifying God. *“I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever: with my mouth will I make known they faithfulness to all generations”* (Psalm 89:1). “The messenger of the covenant” desires to speak through us in these last days. “The message of salvation is communicated to men through human agencies.”* Are we **alert** to our responsibilities and privileges? Will we succeed where the Jews failed in being God’s voice in the world?

The human voice is one of the special ways we have been given to “advertise” God’s character. And to the degree that we know Him and partake of His Spirit, to that degree we can make Him known through our voices.

Our voice is
to be used
in glorifying God.



*The Desire of Ages 36

The Voice and the Mind

In our previous lessons, we saw how the unique sound of each person's voice is related to the size and shape of the different body parts involved in the production of sound. And, while the voice bears a direct and important relation to the body, it also bears an indirect, but important, relation to the mind. The body is visible while the mind is invisible; but, without the mind, a person's voice would lack expression. A person's intelligence is expressed by their voice. Deep breathing and deep thoughts go together in producing deep, musical voices, both in speaking and singing. On the other hand, shallow thinking and shallow breathing combine in producing a shallow, empty, disagreeable, monotonous voice. This is the kind of voice that many of the rabbis had in Christ's day. Their lack of spirituality affected their voice quality.

A healthy mind is just as important in producing a nice voice as is a healthy body. An **alert** mind thinks clearly, feels deeply, and wills decidedly. Unclear thinking, empty feeling, and hesitation in making decisions go along with voice disability.

Character

The mind, and the emotions it produces, give character to the voice. For example, anger tends to constrict the voice, making it sound throaty and disagreeable, while sympathy and tenderness make the voice softer, richer, and more pleasant to the ear. Joyful thoughts make the voice purer and cause an expansion of the body. This produces a corresponding openness of the throat and freedom of tone.

The **alert** observer can often tell a person's profession simply by the tones of the voice. For instance, public speakers sometimes develop a habit of speaking forced and loud tones because they think the effort is necessary to be heard. As a general rule, the voice of a person shows their habits, trends of mind, convictions, and emotions.

A Healthy mind
is just
AS important
in producing
A nice voice
AS is
A Healthy
body.



Some of the worst voice defects are the result of mental and emotional actions. An example of a fault of this kind is when a person does not breathe often enough when they are speaking. This happens when the speaker is mentally anxious to rush through the act of expressing his ideas. He may be thinking the complete thought he is about to utter, or he may be thinking way ahead of the phrase he is speaking. Whatever is motivating him to speak hurriedly, if he slows his mind down so that he is thinking only one thing at a time, and concentrates on realizing each impression, then his breathing will become easy, natural and more frequent. His voice will also become much more expressive. *“Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God”* (Ecclesiastes 5:2). Remember, when you are tempted to interrupt others or to use hurried speech that “God’s purposes know no haste...”*

**“BE NOT RASH
WITH THY MOUTH,
AND LET NOT THINE HEART
BE HASTY TO UTTER
ANY THING BEFORE GOD.”**
Ecclesiastes 5:2

**The Desire of Ages 32*

Review

1. Besides the vocal organs themselves, what influences the voice?
2. To the degree that we partake of God’s __ __ __ __ __ __ , to that degree we can make Him known through our voices.
3. Deep __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ and deep breathing go together in producing deep, musical voices.
4. What is one cause of a monotonous voice?
5. The __ __ __ __ gives character to the voice.
6. What emotion produces openness of the throat and freedom of tone?
7. What emotion constricts the voice?
8. What emotions make the voice soft and rich?
9. If a person is in a hurried state of mind how does it affect his manner of talking?



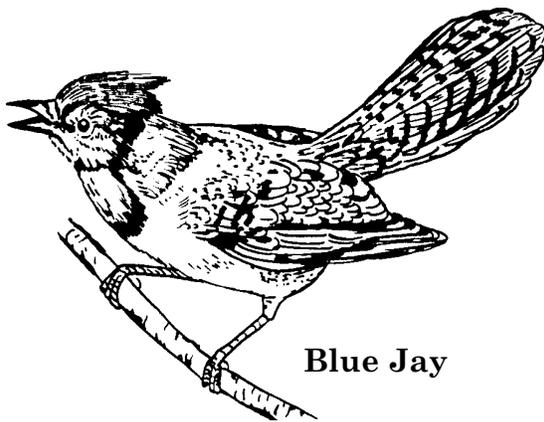
Reinforce

1. Notice peoples' voices. Does the sound of their voice ever give you a clue as to what kind of a job they have?
2. Practice taking deep breaths before speaking when you are feeling anxious.

THE SOUND BIRDS MAKE TELL ABOUT THEIR CHARACTER



Dove



Blue Jay

Research

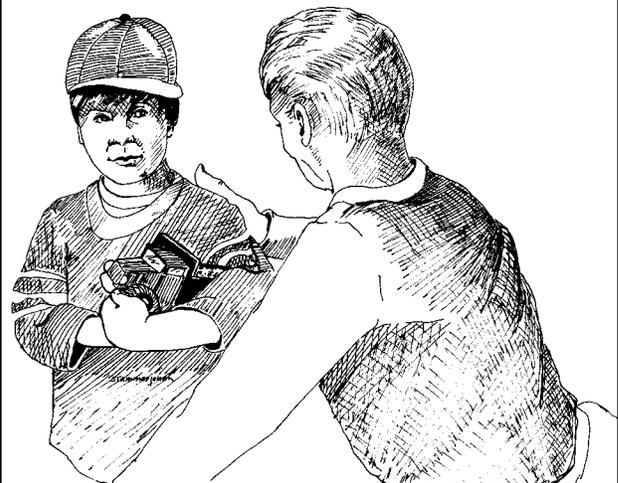
Animal Voices

“...LET ME HEAR THY VOICE;
FOR SWEET IS THY VOICE...”

Song of Solomon 2:14

The relationship between character and voice can also be seen in the animal kingdom. Animals with voices are usually of a higher order and have more refined feelings than those without voices. The character of the animal being revealed by the voice can be proven by the fact that the birds having the gentlest dispositions, such as the turtle dove, have the sweetest songs. Blue jays, English sparrows, crows, hawks and other “robbers” make unpleasant, discordant sounds.

Is your voice sweet
or discordant?



Emotions

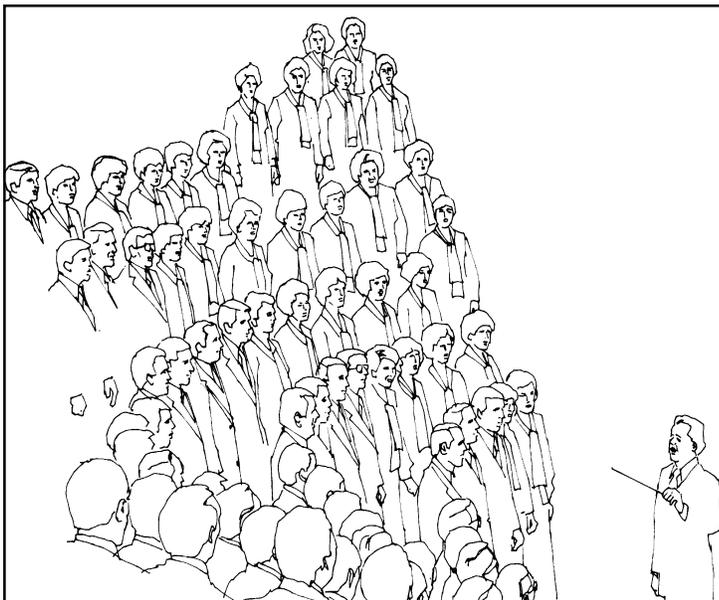
“To this end WAS I born,
and for this cause came I into the world,
that I should bear witness unto the truth.
Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”
JOHN 18:37

Any negative emotion affects the quality of tone in a person's voice. You can notice this as you listen to people talk when they are in pain, or afraid. Positive emotions naturally improve the quality of the tones.

As God's people are called to be mouth pieces for Him, you can see how they must have the proper emotions and thoughts to back up the words they speak. Their voices will have more power for good in the world as mind, words, and tones unite in true harmony.

Let us dedicate our voices for the purpose of expressing truth and righteousness. In order to carry this desire out, the mind must be fortified against the evil, the ugly, and the false.

“Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Philippians 4:8).



More Power

God's peoples' voices
will HAVE MORE POWER
for good in the world
AS mind, words,
AND tones unite
in true HARMONY.

As we consecrate our voices to God we may humbly say with Jesus, *“To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice”* (John 18:37).

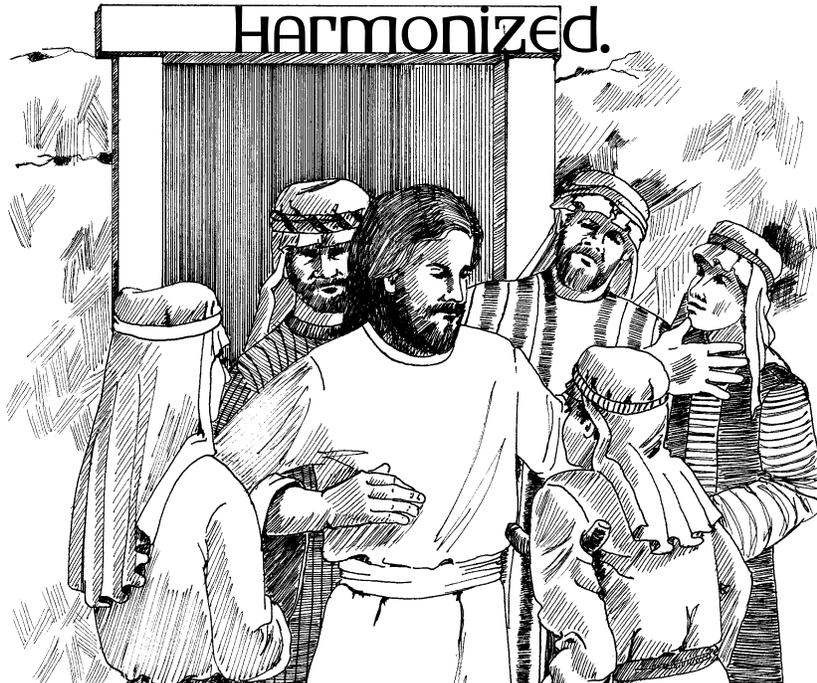
Our goal concerning our voice is to be like Christ, our great Example. His mind, His actions, and His words all harmonized. “What He taught, He lived...thus in His life, Christ’s words had perfect illustration and support. And more than

this; what He taught, He was. His words were the expression not only of His own experience, but of His own character. Not only did He teach the truth, but He was the truth. It was this that gave His teaching power.”*

“And it came to pass when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes” (Matthew 7:28-29).

Christ’s mind, actions, and words

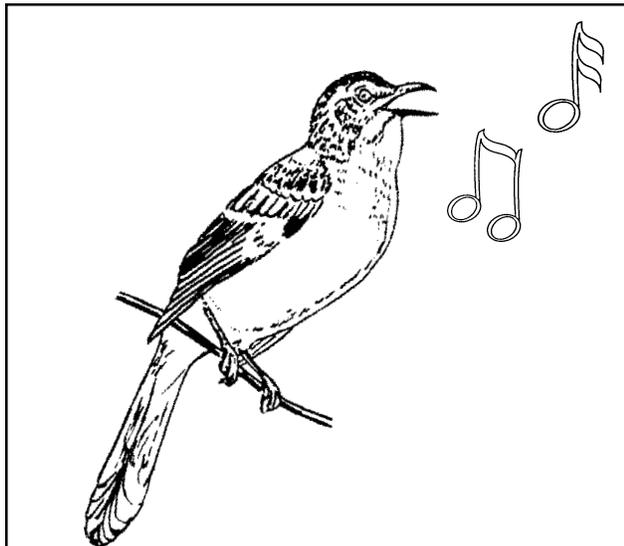
HARMONIZED.



“WHAT HE TAUGHT, HE LIVED...THUS IN HIS LIFE, CHRIST’S WORDS HAD PERFECT ILLUSTRATION AND SUPPORT. AND MORE THAN THIS; WHAT HE TAUGHT, HE WAS.”

**Education 78-79*

And so, the first steps to be taken in voice culture are with the heart and soul. And, once this is begun, there is good hope of progress along the lines of the physical development of the vocal organs. We will be learning in the following lessons how to exercise the bodily organs in such a way as to produce the most melodious voice possible. In the meantime, remember the exercise recommended by the apostle Paul, *“Exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable unto all things”* (I Timothy 4:7-8).



Remember,
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 to be taken
 in voice culture
 ARE WITH
 THE HEART AND SOUL.

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 WHEN JESUS HAD ENDED
 THESE SAYINGS,
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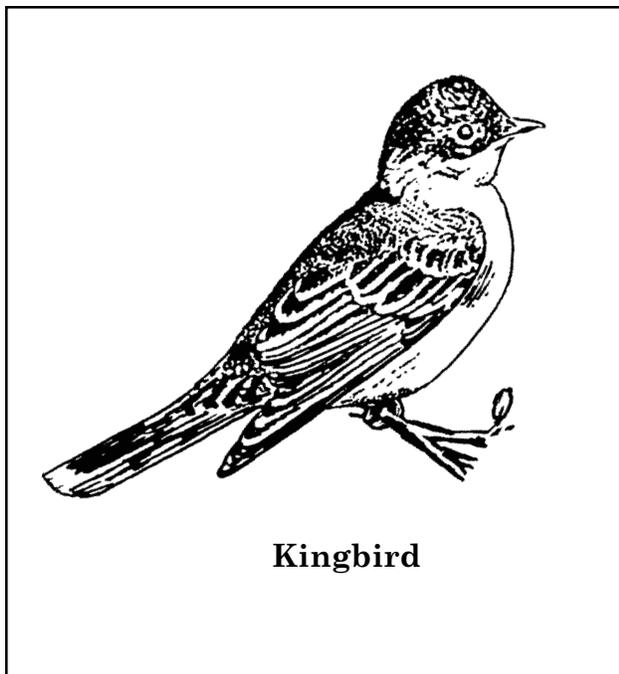
“FOR HE TAUGHT THEM
 AS ONE HAVING AUTHORITY,
 AND NOT AS THE SCRIBES.”
 MATTHEW 7:28-29

Review

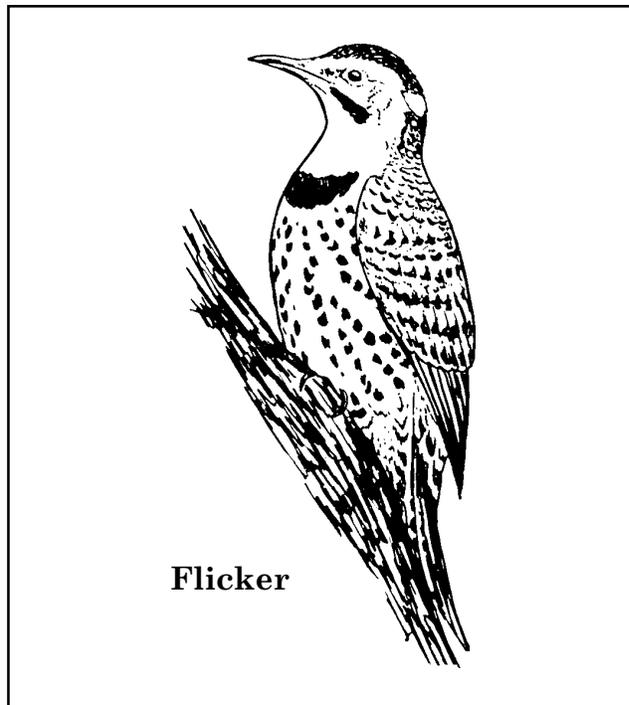
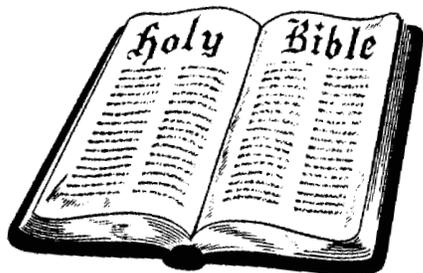
1. Give an example of how an animal's character is expressed by the type of voice it has.
2. Emotions affect the _____ of a person's voice.
3. Our voices are for bearing “*wit-ness unto the _____.*”
4. Words have power only as they are the expression of a person's true _____.

Reinforce

1. Go for a nature walk and be **alert** especially to animals' voices. Did you hear any of the birds' voices mentioned in this lesson?



2. Be **alert** to the sound of peoples' voices. Can you tell what emotion they are feeling when they talk? Can you think of a Bible text that tells you how to talk to a person who is angry? (See Proverbs 15:1.)



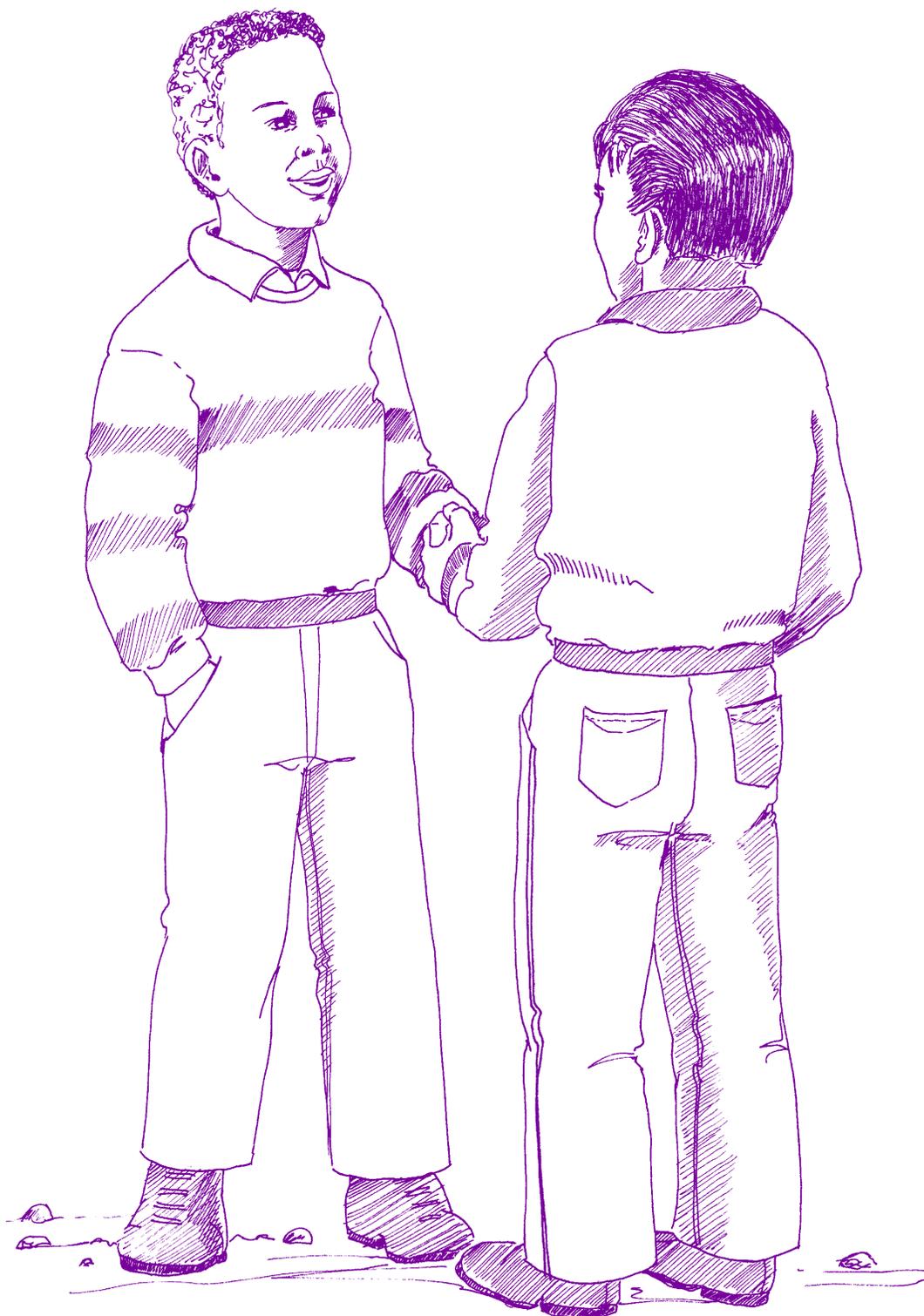
3. When it is your turn to read a Scripture in family worship, try to make your tone of voice express the thoughts of the text instead of reading monotonously.

**“A soft answer
turneth away wrath:
but grievous words
stir up anger.”**
Proverbs 15:1

**“By long forbearing
is a prince persuaded,
and a soft tongue
breaketh the bone.”**
Proverbs 25:15

“A soft answer turneth away wrath:
but grievous words stir up anger.”

Proverbs 15:1



Each booklet in the series,
“Designing Your Own School Program,”
is planned for a family to study together
for their homeschool curriculum;
yet versatile enough to be used
in the conventional classroom.

Learn the principles
of the subject matter from the Scriptures;
discover more academic information;
then apply it to your daily life.

Other titles in the voice series are available
in the following subjects:

- 1 – WHAT is the Voice?
- 2 – CARE of the Voice
- 3 – VOICE Culture
- 4 – THE Principle of BREATHING
- 5 – MUSCLES and BREATHING
- 6 – THE VOCAL CORDS
- 7 – CORRECT Bodily ALIGNMENT
- 8 – RESONATING CHAMBER, RESONANCE
- 9 – GROWING VOICE
- 10 – VOICE in COMMUNICATION



Mark 4:29