



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

A-MAZE-IN Life Series, Lesson 6

Lesson Title: Music – What Will You Choose?

Take Home Point: Let God guide your choices in music.

Warm-Up:

Music has an interesting effect on our memories. Think back to when you were a teenager. If your mother tells you, "Remember how often I told you..." what is the likelihood you will actually remember her words? But what happens when you hear a popular song from that same time in your life? You may be able to hum the tune or sing the words, and it might take your memory back to incidents or friends or the emotions you were experiencing when you first heard it. Music is sometimes called the easiest doorway into the soul, carrying its melodies, moods and even lyrics deep into us – deep enough that we may be affected in ways beyond our conscious awareness. The power of music is not to be underestimated or ignored.

Read: 1 Corinthians 10:23; Ephesians 5:18b-20; 1 Samuel 16:23

Observation (What happened?):

With whom are we to be filled, and how do we show it?

How did David express himself whenever he felt the Spirit of the Lord?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What did Paul mean when he said everything is permissible?

Why are we to give thanks to God the Father for everything?

Insight:

Music goes a long way back in man's history, and is an integral part of life throughout Scripture. It is first mentioned in the Bible in Genesis 4:21, when Jubal, an early descendent of Adam and Eve, was called "the father of all who play the harp and flute." Moses sang praise to God after the Red Sea rescue. Music was an essential part of the tabernacle worship. As we read in 1 Samuel, David played music to soothe King Saul's troubled spirit. Skip forward to the New Testament. What is the last thing Jesus does at the Passover supper just before his betrayal and crucifixion? Matthew 26:27-30: *"Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom.' When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."* For the rest of their lives, what do you think the disciples remembered whenever they heard that hymn? Musical memory is powerful; that's why Paul encourages us to "sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs."

Application (What does it mean to me?):

How do you express yourself when you feel the Spirit of the Lord on you?

How do choices of the music you listen to affect your perspective on life and circumstances?

Kingdom Quest Year 2 – Lesson 6