

soundtrack

let's get it started

introduction

Our role in the story is the soundtrack. Our lives are the soundtrack to the story of God. Every story has a soundtrack. As we respond to God, we sing the song, we let go the anthem, and we become the soundtrack.

Why do you go to church? Why do you sing? Because the story of God needs a soundtrack. We need to press play for the world to hear.

let's get it started

Last week we talked about Moses and Pharaoh. Let's pick up the story.

Moses went to Pharaoh and asked him to let God's people go. He leads them out of Egypt and straight into the Red Sea. Pharaoh changes his mind and begins to pursue the Israelites again. God splits the Red Sea and the people cross over on dry ground.

The end of the story:

Exodus 14.29.30 - "But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. That day the Lord saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore."

They crossed on dry ground - this is either not true or the coolest thing that ever happened. Millions of people passed through. Can you imagine if you were one of the ones at the back? You're hurrying because it may close up any minute.

That day the Lord saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians. Israel was free.

vs 31 - "And when the Israelites saw the great power the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant."

A "duh" verse - when they saw what God did, they feared the Lord and they put their trust in him and Moses (Moses' stock went up) – duh.

What did they do next? Someone said, "Let's get it started," and they sang a song. "We just saw something incredible. People will make movies about this. God just saved us. Somebody get this party started. We need a soundtrack."

Can you imagine how huge this was? This changed the destiny of their lives and our lives today. This was a history altering event. What song would you sing? The occasion clearly needs a song.

What would Outkast sing? "The Way You Move" (play chorus)
What would Usher sing? "Yeah" (play chorus)
What would Lifehouse sing? "You and Me" (play chorus)
What about 50 Cent? "In Da Club" (play opening of song)
What about the Black Eyed Peas? "Let's get it started" (play chorus)

15.1 – "Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:"

The song begins. They stopped and realized that God did an amazing thing and they wanted to provide the soundtrack. Songs didn't originate with us. Songs have been around as long as God has been around. Angels have been singing before man was even around.

Songs have always been a huge part of God's story. The people of God sang the song of God and provided the soundtrack for the rest of the world to know what God has done.

This song has 29 verses and contains some weird stuff and gory details. Try to put a melody to some of this.

Examples:

Vs 1 "I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea."

"He hurled them into the sea. He hurled them into the sea." Can you see the melody forming?

Vs 8 "By the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up. The surging waters stood firm like a wall; the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea."

Vs 10 "But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them, they sank like lead in the mighty waters."

"They sank like lead in the sea! They sank like lead in the sea!"

They sang about what God had done.

At the end of the song (vs 20), Miriam took a tamborine (that's where tamborines got started; anybody can play a tamborine) and other women followed her and they danced and sang. What a party. There wasn't anybody standing around saying, "I'm not really into the music." Or, "I'm just not that good of a singer." "I don't really like that style of music."

Mothers and fathers, daughters and sons, grandfathers and grandmothers all sang. The volume was cranked up on the soundtrack. The party got started.

the buckeye's song

The people of God have always had a song. Who doesn't have a song? Our country has a song. And when it is played, everyone stands and sings together. The Olympics have a song. Our favorite shows have a song. Thank goodness friends has been syndicated and you can see it 75 times a day now.

How about the Buckeyes? Do they have a song? What do people do when these songs are played?

Play the Ohio State fight song.

Have you ever gone to a Buckeye game? They play that song all day long. Every time they play it, people get up and sing. Nobody sits there and says, "I don't really like that song. I don't have a good voice. Why do we have to sing it every time we do something good?"

It's just the opposite. People with horrible voices don't hold anything back. Big guys drinking beer are the first on their feet singing as loud as they can. You know the guy. He couldn't hold a note if you stuffed one in his mouth. But he'll rise up and sing at the top of his voice. He doesn't even know all the words.

*Fight the team across the field
Show them Ohio's here
Set the Earth reverberating
With a mighty cheer
RAH! RAH! RAH!
Hit them hard and see how they fall
Never let that team get the ball
Hail! Hail! The gang's all here
So let's win that old conference now!*

People all over the stadium are going crazy. Why? Because they're connected to the story.

This is our song. Our opportunity to get it started and let our song be heard.

It's not about age. Young people, kids, old people all will wear red and sing as loud as they can. It's not about status. Some people come in trucks, come in nice SUVs. Some suburbanites, some hickafied, some rednecks, some prim and proper people. But when the song plays, it unifies everyone.

Every movement has a song. There's something about the song and how we sing it that either validates or invalidates our story.

That's why you point to the small narrow band of people dressed in blue and gold at the other end of the stadium as you sing the song. "Do you hear our song?"

In the forth quarter you don't get upset because you've sung this song a thousand times before. It means even more then. You're more excited about it then. You stand up, cup your hands and aim their way.

the song of salvation

Every movement has a song. Their song was a song of salvation. *"We have come through the mighty waters and God has rescued us."*

That song never died. Fast forward - all through the Old Testament, the people of God go back to this song.

Psalm 106.8,9 "Yet he saved them for his name's sake, to make his mighty power known. He rebuked the Red Sea, and it dried up; he led them through the depths as through a desert."

They knew it was God, they knew it wasn't anything they did. It wasn't their story, it was God's story.

"They believed His promises and sang His praise." Somebody said, "We have to get this thing started."

Fast forward again - the song even made it into the New Testament. It was never forgotten. Salvation takes on a whole new meaning. It's not about Pharaoh, it's about eternal death. Christ comes on the scene to save us.

Somebody get this started, we've been saved. God is doing great things.

Fast forward to today. We sing songs every time we get together. It's more than just the songs we sing, it's about the story. So it doesn't matter about style. The story transcends style. The question becomes, "Is the song about the story of God?" They may have a different style or tempo or melody, but all the songs tell the story of God.

We are still singing salvation's song. Not rooted in Moses and Pharaoh, but in Jesus. Not in physical death, but in spiritual death and separation.

"I'm just really not into music" doesn't work. The story transcends that. How attached are you to the story? It doesn't matter how well you sing or whether you like that style of music or not.

To the degree that you join the song says a lot about how attached you are to the story.

We've been "saved." Sounds a little odd doesn't it. Like an old term. "Are you saved, brotha?" You really can't say "saved" you have to say, "saaavvvveeed." "Hey sista, are you saaaavvvveeed?"

We should shorten it down from 19 syllables to one. We can't throw it away because that's what we are. We are saved. It's different from being bettered. Or being enhanced. Enlightened. Redirected.

Saved. Rescued.

Saved from what. A life without God. Death and the grave. Sin and shame. Guilt and condemnation. Eternal judgment. Itty, bitty stories.

closing

The world is listening and most have never heard the song before.

If worship is the soundtrack for the story of God, then the Psalms are the song book. They call for us to get it started and sing. David constantly said, *"I don't know about this. I don't know about that. But the one thing I do know is I'm going to get it started."*

Psalm 66.1,2 – *"Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praises glorious!"*

Vs 6 - "he turned the sea into dry land." They're still talking about it.

Psalm 95 – "Come let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation."
(let's get it started)

Psalm 96 – "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth."

Psalm 100 – "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs."

What song are you singing? Whose soundtrack are you pressing play on?

Every day the people around you are listening to your song. What are they hearing?