



## ***MUSIC & The Christian***

As you go through each lesson, look up the Bible verses and answer the questions in the blanks provided. When you are finished with this lesson you and your mentor will meet to discuss your answers and any questions you may have. This is not a pass/fail test, so answer honestly as you understand things. We want you to understand, not just to give the "right" answer.



Music has always held a wonderful place in the lives of God's people. Moses sang after crossing the Red Sea. King David wrote and sang many of the most wonderful songs of praise that have ever been written by man. Heaven itself rings with songs of praise to God.

**What we do with music matters to God.**

Music also poses a very real dilemma for the modern-day believer. We are faced with a broad spectrum of musical styles even within what is commonly considered to be "Christian music." Are all these musical styles ranging from "hard rock" to "classical" appropriate for me as a Christian? And what about the message and teachings communicated by these songs? We should carefully examine these and other questions in the light of God's Word.

Thoughtfully and prayerfully answer the following questions from the Scripture passages indicated. Be committed to obedience to God's Word rather than your personal preferences or emotional attachments to your favorite musical style.

Discipleship Lesson #12: ALCOHOL & Other Addictive Substances

1. Read **John 4:24**. What kind of worship does God require?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is worship that violates either of the above truths *acceptable to God*? (Check one)      YES \_\_\_\_\_      NO \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read **Psalm 29:2**. Describe how God is to be worshipped.

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\_\_\_\_\_

4. Does sensual or irreverent music meet this qualification? (Check one)  
YES \_\_\_\_\_      NO \_\_\_\_\_      Why or Why not?

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\_\_\_\_\_

5. Read **Exodus 15:2; Psalm 118:14; and Isaiah 12:2**. Scripture teaches that sacred music is not all about the music itself; but is a vehicle to communicate something about God. What is our song to say about our God?

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6. Read **Colossians 3:16**. What are some scriptural purposes for music?

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7. Read Ephesians 5:18-19. Does music seem to play a part in the Spirit-filled life? (Check one) YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ Explain your answer.

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**NOTE:** When the New Testament Scriptures were inspired in the first century A.D., many areas of Christian living and standards of holiness were addressed by general principles rather than by exhaustive lists of do's and don'ts. For example, questions of narcotics, dating standards and other areas were not all specifically spelled out, as is indicated by the fact that at the end of the description of the flesh in Galatians 5:21, Paul said, "And such like," leaving the believer to make discerning, Spirit-led decisions about other areas of life.

8. Read Galatians 5:19-23. These verses describe the contrast between the flesh-filled life versus the Spirit-filled life. List any of the works of the flesh found in verses 19-21 which could be communicated through music.

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9. Read Galatians 5:22-23. List the aspects of the fruit of the Spirit which could be communicated in music.

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10. Read Psalm 98:4 & 100:1. Which one aspect of the fruit of the Spirit is often mentioned in connection with music?

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11. Read II Kings 3:11-15. What happened in Elisha's spirit after he was ministered to by music? What was his frame of mind prior to the minstrel (musician) played or sang for him?

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12. What do you think the minstrel's music was like in II Kings 3:15?

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13. Read Galatians 5:21 again. One of the terms in this verse is "revellings" or "carousing" (*i.e. wild partying*). The Scripture gives an account of revelling in worship at Mount Sinai (see Exodus 32:17-26 & I Corinthians 10:7). What do you think the music in those passages sounded like, and what role do you think the music may have played in creating the atmosphere of reveling or carousing ?

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14. Read I Samuel 16:18-23. David played music to minister to King Saul. What descriptions of carnality (the "old man" or the flesh) seemed to be in Saul's life and character before David ministered to him through music?

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15. Reread Galatians 5:22-23. Which specific aspects of the fruit of the Spirit from this passage did Saul exhibit after David's musical ministry?

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16. Read I Corinthians 14:15. This passage defines the true nature of spiritual blessing. What two faculties of man are engaged when true spiritual blessing occurs?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

17. Many have justified their use of music fashioned after the world's music by saying that it would be used for evangelism. Read the following verses and answer this question: "What is the true power of God for salvation?"

Romans 1:16 \_\_\_\_\_

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I Corinthians 1:18-21 \_\_\_\_\_

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18. Read Romans 3:8. Concerning the goal of reaching the lost with music that sounds like the world's music, does the *END* justify the *MEANS*? (Check one) YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

"It is never right to do wrong, even in order to get a chance to do right."  
- Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

19. Read Haggai 2:11-14. This passage addresses the idea of mixing of good and bad elements in worship. When worship is mixed with good and bad, does the good tend to sanctify the bad, or does the bad tend to defile the good? (Check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ The good tends to sanctify the bad.

\_\_\_\_\_ The bad tends to sanctify the good.

20. Read Romans 12:2. Billy Ray Hearn, owner of Sparrow Records once said, "We take the music of the street and apply Christian lyrics to it." Does the attitude revealed in this quote fulfill admonition of not being conformed to this world? (Check one)

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

21. Read II Corinthians 5:17 & Psalm 96:1. When our lives are supernaturally changed through salvation in Christ, should our music also change? (Check one)

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

22. Read Ephesians 5:10. To whom should we be certain that our music choices (as well as all areas of our Christian life) are acceptable?

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23. Does putting a "Christian" label on something automatically mean that it is acceptable to God? (Check one)

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

24. Read I John 2:15-17. What should our attitude be toward anything that is clearly identified with a sinful, pagan culture?

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**Read the following quotes from reputable sources concerning Christian music:**

- "It is difficult to comprehend how Christian musicians can talk about new creation, new life in Christ, resurrection values, righteousness, and purity, and proceed to wrap these lofty and spiritual concepts and values into a new-pagan, primitive, rhythmic, atheistic musical style copied directly from those who have declared war on these very values... Christian rock groups have brought into the church a music reflecting man's warfare against God." - *Cynthia Maus in **Christ and the Fine Arts***
- "This particular sound and style in music did not originate with dedicated Christians who loved the Lord and felt impressed by the Holy Spirit to write it... To take the music that is inspired by the god of this world (Satan) and use it to worship our heavenly Father is totally contrary to what we are taught in the Word of God." - *Gordon Sears*
- "The excuse that 'sometimes people are saved' is not excuse at all. People have been saved in concentration camps because God can bring good from evil, but this does not justify the evil." - *Dr. Francis Shaeffer in **Addicted to Mediocrity***
- "The big question is whether pop music communicates the gospel in this way. We maintain that it does not, for the crucial reason that the medium has a distorting influence on the message." - *John Blanchard in **Pop Goes the Gospel**, p. 79.*
- "The worship of God is not a branch of the entertainment industry. Worship is the entertainment of God, not the entertainment of man." - *Dr. David C. Innes*
- "If the singing of sacred music is for teaching and admonishing the child of God - if it is to influence the Christian's spiritual life - the music must reflect and reinforce Biblical truths." - *Dr. Frank Garlock in **Music in the Balance**, p. 54.*

## Discipleship Lesson #13: MUSIC & The Christian

- "The new child of God sheds many things as he begins the Christian life. Many of the habits, actions, thoughts, activities, and desires which reflect the world are left behind as the Holy Spirit takes rule... The world's music ought to be one of those things left behind." - *Dr. Frank Garlock in **Music in the Balance**, p. 22.*
- "If any style of music...creates feelings, ideas, emotions, values, or moods that are of, by, or for the unchanged way of life, such music is out of place in the changed life experience." - *Robert Berglund in **A Philosophy of Church Music***
- "Far too much discussion of rock has focused on rock's effects upon man rather than its offensiveness to God. The result is that many are more interested in what God might permit than in how He might be pleased." - *Richard Peck in **Rock: Making Musical Choices***
- "But let us who hold to the authority of Scripture keep to that music which expresses praise to God in a way that is neither sensational nor sensual - not attempting to gain the applause of the world but desiring the approval of God." - *Dr. Tim Fisher in **The Battle for Christian Music***
- "Rock, rhythm and blues, jazz, pop tunes, Bossa Nova, etc. are all products of the world. These [worldly Christian] musicians are taking the fleshly and are saying in effect, 'We are going to appeal to the spiritual.' It cannot be done... It is interesting to note that most of these styles have had their origin as dance music." - *Lowell Hart, former dance band musician in **Satan's Music Exposed**, p. 123.*

25. **What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know?**

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26. **How can you make this a part of your everyday life?**

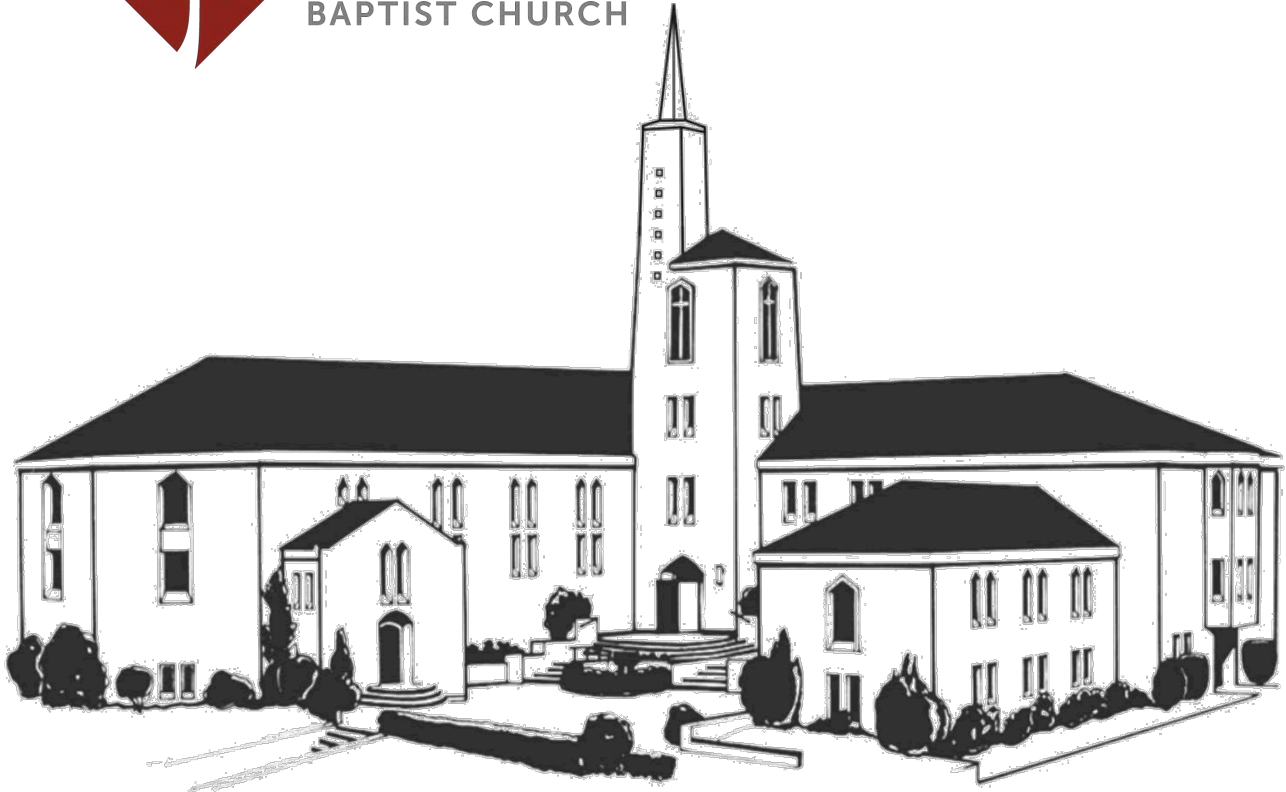
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## MEMORIZE THESE VERSES for Lesson 12

(pick the translation that works best for you)

Title to verses: Music and the Christian

**Psalm 96:1-2 (KJV)** O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. 2 Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.

**Psalm 96:1-2 (NASB)** Sing to the LORD a new song; Sing to the LORD, all the earth. 2 Sing to the LORD, bless His name; Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day.

**John 4:24 (KJV)** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

**John 4:24 (NASB)** God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

# ACCOUNTABILITY PAGE

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Mentor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date I completed Lesson Ten: \_\_\_\_\_

My Mentor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

A Pastor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



HAMILTON SQUARE  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**Remember:**

*It's important to be at church whenever you are able, so you can continue to grow in the Lord!*

**SUNDAYS**

9:45 am – Bible Study or Sunday School

10:50 am – Morning Worship Service

*Lunch & Mingle*

1:30 pm – Afternoon Church Service

**WEDNESDAYS**

7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

# DIGGING DEEPER

*OPTIONAL: Extra information*



Here are some good books and websites to check out as you dig deeper into this important and very emotionally charged topic. Give God the benefit of the doubt over your own preference. Remember, you will give an account to Him for what you do in the area of your musical choices.

- **Harmony in the Home** by *Tim Fisher* - Sacred Music Services (Greenville, South Carolina)
- **The Battle for Christian Music** by *Tim Fisher* - Sacred Music Services (Greenville, South Carolina)
- **Music in the Balance** by *Frank Garlock and Kurt Woetzel* - Majesty Music (Greenville, South Carolina)
- **Why I Left the Contemporary Christian Music Movement** by *Dan Lucarini* - Evangelical Press (Webster, New York)
- **Majesty Music** - [www.majestymusic.org](http://www.majestymusic.org)
- **The Wilds Christian Association** - [www.wilds.org](http://www.wilds.org)

## ALL MUSIC HAS 3 ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS

**MELODY** - The main tune that speaks to **THE HEART & SOUL.**

**HARMONY** - The extra parts that speak to **THE MIND.**

**RHYTHM** - The part that carries the music along and speaks to **THE BODY.**

"If the music appeals more to your body or your mind than it appeals to your soul, your music is feeding the wrong things." - *Pastor Dan Pelletier*



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THE DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING COURSE

*Lesson Schedule*

Lesson #1	What Happens When One is “Born Again?”	Salvation
Lesson #2	What to Do When You Fall	Confession of Sin
Lesson #3	What About Baptism?	Baptism
Lesson #4	How to Pray & Why Should I?	Prayer
Lesson #5	Bible Study: Making it Personal	Bible Study
Lesson #6	Obedience Brings Blessing	Obedience
Lesson #7	Church Membership Matters	Membership
Lesson #8	Tithes & Offerings: Bible Principles	Giving
Lesson #9	Overcoming Sexual Sin & Temptation	Victory
Lesson #10	Our Lord’s Commission	Witnessing
Lesson #11	Putting Anger & Bitterness to Rest	Bitterness
Lesson #12	Alcohol & Other Addictive Substances	Addictions
Lesson #13	Music and the Christian	Music
Lesson #14	Social Media, TV, Movies, The Internet & The Future	Media
Lesson # 15	Biblical Separation: The Dangers of Compromise	Separation
Lesson #16	Bloom Where You’re Planted! Staying in the City	City Ministry
Lesson #17	Happiness Forever: The Fruit of Faithfulness	Heaven

If you have questions, ask your mentor to help you.  
If he or she can’t help you, they will help you set up an appointment  
with a pastor at our church. They are here to help you!