

Learning to Sing a New Song Psalm 96

“Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!” Psalm 96:1

“The idea is of a ‘fresh song’, responding to truth, freshly received, fresh experience. Just as ‘compassion is ‘new every morning’ (Lamentations 3:22-23) so is the responsive song.” Alec Motyer

Singing a new song ought to be a cultivated spiritual discipline of the community of God’s people.

We ought to continually foster fresh appreciations of the gospel and fresh expressions of joy and praise unto the Lord.

I. Sing, Sing, Sing: Continually See , Savor , and Celebrate Yahweh’s Mighty Acts and Majestic Character. Psalm 96:1-6

“O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.”
Psalm 96:1-2

- **Replay an Old Song: The Gospel - “Tell of his salvation from day to day.”**

“The new song is not simply a piece newly composed, though it naturally includes such, but a response that will match the freshness of his mercies, which are ‘new every morning.’” Derek Kidner

“I don’t know how to rejoice *always*, but I do know that every time I remember who He is—and how He gave Himself up for us so that we could know wholeness—something shifts in my heart, even when it’s breaking.”

Ellie Holcomb

- **Retell it to new people/peoples.** “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.”

“the elohim are elilim”

“the gods are godlets”

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”
John 10:10-11

“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.”
John 15:13-15

Slow Down: Meditate on the glory and splendor of God in his sanctuary.
“Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.”

“One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.”
Psalm 127:5

All the Earth is God’s Sanctuary.

“Bless the Lord, O my soul!
O Lord my God, you are very great!
You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
covering yourself with light as with a garment,
stretching out the heavens like a tent.”
Psalm 104:1-2

Christ Himself is the Sanctuary of God.

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
John 1:14

“So the Jews said to him, ‘What sign do you show us for doing these things?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews then said, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ”

John 2:19-21

You can not be aflame with affections for Christ if you are busy with the distractions of this world.

You cannot be filled with fresh songs if you are always in a hurry and not willing to linger over glorious truths and seek to plumb the depths of His majesty.

II. Ascribe, Ascribe, Ascribe: Make It Your Ambition to Prioritize His Praise In Your Life Even When You Are Spiritually Dry.

Psalm 96:7-10

“Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name...”

Psalm 96:7-8

- **Show Up And Serve Sacrificially:** Bring to God what you have and let Him give you what you need. “bring an offering, and come into his courts!”

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” Romans 12:1

- **Holiness: Pursue the Holiness that You Possess In Christ.**

“Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!” Psalm 96:9

“but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’” 1 Peter 1:15-16

- **Confidence:** Affirm what is true over all in the face of everything that is broken and contradictory – “Our God Reigns!”

“Say among the nations, ‘The Lord reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.’”

Psalm 96:10

“Worship refocuses our minds on God’s greatness, and puts our pain in its rightful place — under the reign of an already victorious Father.”

Rachel Coulter

**III. Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice: Anticipate and Celebrate
the LORD'S Coming to Reign. Psalm 96:11-13**

“Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth.” Psalm 96:11-13

One of the reasons we feel cold and distant in our relationship with God is that we read the rest of the story in light of our present circumstances rather than our present circumstances in light of the rest of God's story.

“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”
Revelation 22:12-13

“The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.” Revelation 22:17