

JOIN THE MIGHTY CHORUS

Part 2: Zamar

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zamar (zah-*mawr*)

to make music; to celebrate in song and music;
to touch the strings or parts of a musical instrument.

I will sing a new song to you, my God;
on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music (*zamar*) to you. – Psalm 144:9

I will give thanks (*yadah*) to the Lord because of his righteousness;
I will sing the praises (*zamar*) of the name of the Lord most High.

– Psalm 7:17

3 Important Truths About Zamar

1. Music that honors God can comfort the human soul and increase our awareness of God's presence

Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him. – 1 Samuel 16:23

2. Music can open our hearts to God's truth

¹⁴ Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not pay any attention to you. ¹⁵ But now bring me a harpist."

While the harpist was playing, the hand of the LORD came on Elisha ¹⁶ and he said, "This is what the LORD says: I will fill this valley with pools of water. ¹⁷ For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. ¹⁸ This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also deliver Moab into your hands. – 2 Kings 3:14-18

3. Music can pave the way to spiritual victory

Joshua 6:2-5

² Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."

1 Peter 4:2-6

² As you come to him, the living Stone — rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him — ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.

2 Chronicles 20:20-22

²⁰ Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.” ²¹ After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying:

“Give thanks to the Lord,
for his love endures forever.”

²² As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.

Worship is a weapon!

My heart, O God, is steadfast.

My heart is steadfast.

I will sing and make music (*zamar*).

– Psalm 57:7

Small Group Questions

- 1) What song would be a great theme song for your life?
- 2) Do you play an instrument? When was the last time you played? Have you ever “*zamared*” with that instrument?
- 3) Has music ever brought you comfort? Are there certain styles of worship that help you in different areas of your life? Share!
- 4) Read the accounts from 2 Chronicles 20:14-23 and Joshua 6:2-5. Why do you believe worshiping God can turn the tide of a life battle?
- 5) How will you practice *zamar* this coming week? How could you fix your heart on God with music in the coming week?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?