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 Chapter 8
 

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# MUSIC AND MISSIONARY SONGS

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Music is powerful! It can be used to express our deepest praise as we glorify God, or it can be used for terrible evil such as heavy metal rock, violent rap, or satanic witchcraft chants.

Music can tell us much about a culture. Songs can help you learn a foreign language and even listening to different international styles can give us a “feel” for another land.

When I think about my missionary experiences, I realize how much the music of the people is an integral part of my memories. Africa would not be the same without the tribal drums and village rhythms...and a visit to Austria is not complete without a taste of classical Mozart. Think about Jewish folk dancing, Jamaican calypso, Asian clanging and minor chording: the music is an essential—and often inseparable—part of a culture.

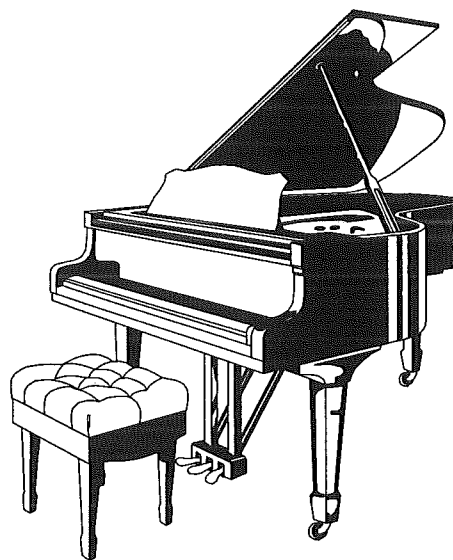
As your children learn music, study both music appreciation and instrumental and voice instruction. All are important elements of music, and can help you on the mission field.

Music is an important tool to help Christians share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Music can draw people to a meeting, open up the hearts of the lost, and share the

message of Jesus. It is an important part of our growth as Christians, as we worship God together.

## SIMPLE MISSIONARY CHORUSES

*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*  
*This Little Light of Mine*  
*I Will Make You Fishers of Men*  
*In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified*  
*I Surrender All*  
*Hallelujah*  
*People Need the Lord*



## JESUS LOVES ME

### English:

Jesus loves me, this I know  
 For the Bible tells me so.  
 Little ones to Him belong  
 They are weak, but He is strong.  
 CHORUS: Yes, Jesus loves me (3x)  
 The Bible tells me so.

### Mission verse:

Jesus loves the nations  
 Every tongue and every tribe  
 He wants to use you  
 To reach them to be His bride.  
 CHORUS: Yes, Jesus loves them (3x)  
 The Bible tells me so.

### Spanish:

CHORUS: Cris-to me a-ma (3x)  
 La Biblia dice a-si.

### Swahili pronunciation:

CHORUS: Yay-soo ah-nee pen-da (3x)  
 Bee-blee-ah ah-nee say mah.

### French pronunciation:

CHORUS: Wee, Zhay-zuee meh-mer (3x)  
 La Bee-bler dee teh-se.

### Arabic pronunciation:

CHORUS: Kahd faa-kah hub-nah (3x)  
 Yu-hib-bu-nah Yah-so.

### Russian pronunciations

CHORUS: Lyoo-beet Ee-ee-soos (3x)  
 E-to tvyer-do snah-yoo yah.

### Japanese pronunciation:

CHORUS: Wah-gah Shoo Yah-soo (3x)  
 Way-ray oh ah-ee-soo.

## GOD IS SO GOOD

### English:

God is so good (3x)  
 He's so good to me.

### Spanish:

Dios bueno es (3x)  
 Bueno es mi Dios.

### Kituba (Zaire):

Nzambi ke mbote (3x)  
 Ke mbote na mono.

## PRAISE HIM IN THE MORNING

### English:

Praise Him (3x) in the morning  
 Praise Him in the noontime  
 Praise Him (3x) when the sun goes down.

### Luganda (Uganda):

Tumutende (3x) nga bukende  
 Tumutende nga mutuntu  
 Tumutende (3x) nga buwungela.

## THIS IS THE DAY

### English:

This is the day (2x)  
 That the Lord has made (2x)  
 I will rejoice (2x)  
 And be glad in it. (2x)  
 This is the day that the Lord has made  
 I will rejoice and be glad in it  
 This is the day (2x)  
 That the Lord has made.

### Indonesian:

Hari ini (2x)  
 Hari ya Tuhan (2x)  
 Mari kita (2x)  
 Pujilah Tuhan (2x)  
 Hari ini hari ya Tuhan.  
 Mari kita pujulah Tuhan.  
 Hari ini (2x)  
 Hari ya Tuhan.

**THE B-I-B-L-E****Missions verse:**

The B-I-B-L-E  
It has one story you see,  
To reach all nations with God's love  
The B-I-B-L-E.

**JESUS LOVES THE  
LITTLE CHILDREN**

Jesus loves the little children  
All the children of the world.  
Red and yellow, black and white  
They are precious in His sight  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

**Missions verse:**

Jesus loves the unreached children,  
All the unreached children of the world.  
Muslims, Buddhists, Hin-dus,  
Chinese, Tribals need Him too  
Jesus died for all the children of the world.

**I HAVE DECIDED TO  
FOLLOW JESUS****English:**

I have decided to follow Jesus (3x)  
No turning back. (2x)

**Hindi pronunciation (India):**

Yee-soo kay pee-chay meh chull-nay luh-gah (3x)  
Nuh low-doo-gah. (2x)

**Eskimo pronunciation (Alaska):**

Owl-lah-nik-tuu-nga  
maleeng-nyah-jee-gah Jesus (3x)  
Oo-tee joo-mee-nyeyt nga  
Oo-tee joo-mee nyeyt ngah.

**HOW GREAT THOU ART****English Chorus:**

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee  
How great Thou art,  
How great Thou art. (all 2x)

**Hungarian pronunciation:**

See-vehm feh-layd, ooy-yohng er-rerm-tah-lay  
Meely nady vady Tay,  
Meely nady vady Tay. (2x)

**UNTIL THEY KNOW****(To the tune of *How Great Thou Art*)**

Oh, when I think of all the many million  
Who do not know the sound of Thy sweet name,  
Who do not know the miracle of Calvary,  
Who never can Thy great salvation claim,

Then cries my heart, "O teach me Lord to care,  
until they know how great Thou art!"  
Then cries my heart, "O teach me Lord to care,  
until they know how great Thou art!"

But when they know that Jesus died to save them  
And when they know the grace He can impart,  
When Jesus shines His love divine within them  
When He transforms their sinful, darkened heart:

Then they shall sing, my Savior God to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then they shall sing, my Savior God to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

**TILL EVERY TRIBE SHALL HEAR****(To the tune of *Battle Hymn of the Republic*)**

How well we love the story  
Of the blessed Son of God,  
How He purchased our redemption  
When up Calv'ry's hill He trod  
How He told the ones who loved Him  
They must tell His love abroad  
Till ev-ry tribe shall hear.

Chorus: Go to ev-ry tribe and nation,  
With the message of salvation,  
Haste the joyful consumation  
When ev-ry tribe shall hear.

But there are many millions  
Who have never heard His name,  
They've no hope of life eternal,  
They cannot salvation claim,  
For they do not know the message  
Jesus told us to proclaim  
Till ev-ry tribe shall hear.

The Day of God is coming  
When the Church of Christ shall stand  
Face to face with Christ her Saviour  
In the blessed glory land,  
And we each shall give our answer—  
"Did you hasten my command,  
That ev-ry tribe should hear?"

**JOHN 3:16***(To the tune Silent Night)*

John 3:16, John 3:16

God so loved the world that He  
 Gave His only begotten Son  
 Whosoever believeth in Him  
 Should not perish but have  
 Everlasting life.

**HE IS THE KING OF KINGS**

He is the King of Kings  
 He is the Lord of Lords  
 His name is

JESUS, JESUS, JESUS, JESUS

O He is the King!

**Spanish:**

Chorus: Cristo, Cristo, Cristo, Cristo

**Russian pronunciation:**

Ee-ee-soos, Ee-ee-soos, Ee-ee-soos, Ee-ee-soos

**Japanese pronunciation:**

Yah-soo, Yah-soo, Yah-soo, Yah-soo

**Swahili:**

Yesu, Yesu, Yesu, Yesu

**Hebrew:**

Y'shua, Y'shua, Y'shua, Y'shua

**Arabic pronunciations:**

Yah-so, Yah-so, Yah-so, Yah-so

**French pronunciations:**

Zhay-suee, Zhay-suee, Zhay-suee, Zhay-suee

**Hindi pronunciations:**

Yee-soo, Yee-soo, Yee-soo, Yee-soo

**OUR GOD IS A FAITHFUL GOD***(To the tune: Our God is an Awesome God)*

Our God is a faithful God  
 He keeps His promises  
 To reach all nations  
 Our God is a faithful God.

**HALLELU, HALLELU  
 HALLELU, HALLELUJAH****English:**

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah  
 Praise ye the Lord! (all 2x)  
 Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah (3x)  
 Praise ye the Lord!

**Spanish:**

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah  
 Glor-ia a Dios! (all 2x)  
 Glor-ia a Dios, Hallelujah! (3x)  
 Glor-ia a Dios!

**Russian pronunciation:**

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah  
 Ee-ee-sus gaas-poa! (all 2x)  
 Ee-ee-sus gaas-poa, Hallelujah (3x)  
 Ee-ee-sus gaas-poa!

**Chinese pronunciation:**

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah  
 Zchan me choo! (all 2x)  
 Zchan me choo, Hallelujah (3x)  
 Zchan me choo!

**Swahili pronunciation:**

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah  
 Bwana a see-fee-way! (all 2x)  
 Bwana a see-fee-way, Hallelujah (3x)  
 Bwana a see-fee-way!

**Luganda pronunciation (Uganda):**

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah  
 Ye-su ana-kupenda! (all 2x)  
 Ye-su ana-kupenda, Hallelujah (3x)  
 Ye-su ana-kupenda!

**IF YOU'RE BLESSED TO BE A  
 BLESSING***(To the tune of If You're Happy and You Know It)*

If you're blessed to be a blessing clap your hands  
 If you're blessed to be a blessing clap your hands  
 If you're blessed to be a blessing  
     then your life will surely show it  
 If you're blessed to be a blessing clap your hands!  
 (also stomp your feet, shout "AMEN!", do all three)

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## Chapter 9

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# INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS

*Throughout the world, there are many different holidays and international celebrations many of which are based on religious beliefs. These holidays can help us learn about other cultures, and target different groups of people for prayer on these days.*

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### JANUARY

#### 1 New Year's Day

Throughout much of the world, this day is celebrated as a time of new beginnings. Many people make "new year's resolutions" or promises to change during the next year. As Christians, this is a good time to seek God's direction.

#### 6 Three Kings Day or Epiphany, Spain

In many countries throughout the world, this day is celebrated to remember the wise men who came to bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the young child, Jesus. In Spain, children receive gifts on this day instead of on Christmas. Children put hay in their shoes and find the hay replaced with treats the next morning. Pray for the people of Spain to recognize Jesus Christ as their Messiah, just as the wise men did.

#### 14 Pongal, India

In southern India, this day marks the beginning of a three-day harvest festival. The people gather together and watch a pot of newly harvested rice boil. If it boils quickly, the people believe it is a sign of a prosperous new year. Pray that there would be a mighty spiritual harvest in India.

#### 15 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, USA

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a black civil rights leader and a Christian minister. In 1964, he received the Nobel Peace Prize, and was active in seeing segregation laws in the South abolished. He was assassinated in 1968, January 15 (or the third Monday of January) is set aside to remember his leadership and the importance of civil rights. Pray for harmony and love between races in the U.S.A. and that God would give you a compassion for people of other races.

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY

#### Chinese New Year

In China, people clean their homes to prepare for the new year and to rid their lives of any misfortunes or bad luck from the previous year. Families wear new shoes and clothing, and often decorate with red candles symbolizing good luck. Processions are held, often led by a huge dragon, also a symbol of good luck. Firecrackers are set off (sometimes to rid the area of evil spirits) and families participate in gift-giving and meals. Pray for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit and revival in the country of China. Pray that the Chinese would not trust in evil superstitions and luck, but in new life through Jesus Christ.

**Dates for Chinese New Year:**

February 19, 1996; February 7, 1997; January 28, 1998; February 16, 1999; February 5, 2000

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH****Holi, India**

Children from India celebrate the coming of spring by showering each other with brightly colored water and powders. Huge bonfires are lit to "burn away" the old season. It is celebrated in February or March depending on the Hindu calendar. Pray that Hindu people throughout India will find new life in Jesus.

**Eid-al-Fitr, Islamic Countries**

In the Islamic month of Ramadan, devout Muslims fast from both food and drink during the daylight hours. (This is one of the five pillars of Islam.) At sunset on the last day of the month, the people celebrate the "breaking of the fast" with celebrations, food, and gifts. Pray for the Muslim people around the world, will recognize Jesus as God's Son and their personal Savior.

**Dates of Eid-al-Fitr:**

February, 1996 and 1997; January 1998, 1999, and 2000.

**MARCH****17 St. Patrick's Day, Ireland**

Patrick was the first missionary to Ireland. Pray that God would bring a peace between Protestants and Catholics, and that the Irish would know Jesus as their personal Lord. Read about Patrick in the chapter, *Our Examples—Famous Names and Faces in World Missions*.

**21 Noruz, Iran**

This is the celebration of the Iranian new year. Families visit friends and relatives and plant wheat or lentil seeds in a shallow bowl to symbolize the coming of spring. Intercede for doors to open into Iran so that missionaries can minister God's new life in this Muslim country.

**MARCH/APRIL****Passover, Israel**

This Jewish celebration is a reminder of how God delivered the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and how the death angel "passed over" their homes. A special dinner called a seder includes unleavened bread (Matzah), lamb, and bitter herbs. Pray that Jews around

the world will recognize Jesus (Y'ashua) as their Messiah. **Dates Passover begins:** April 22, 1996; March 30, 1997; April 12, 1998; April 4, 1999; April 23, 2000.

**Holy Week, Good Friday, Easter**

Christians around the world celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus. In many Latin American countries, huge processions with large statues of Jesus and other religious relics are carried through the streets. In many of these places, there is little or no mention of the resurrection. In other places (like the Philippines), men allow themselves to be crucified on a cross as a penance for their sins. Pray that people around the world would receive Christ's salvation by faith—not their works.

**Dates for Easter:**

April 7, 1996, March 30, 1997; April 12, 1998, April 4, 1999; April 23, 2000.

**APRIL/MAY****Buddha's Birthday**

Throughout Asia, Buddhists celebrate the birthday of the founder of their religion. In Japan, April 8th is the day people celebrate *Hana Matsuri* by bringing flowers to shrines and holding parades. In southeast Asia, the dates for this holiday (known there as *Vesak*) vary. People celebrate by decorating buildings with lights and paper lanterns, and with rocket festivals. Pray for Buddhists around the world, that the light of the Gospel would reach them and that they would turn to the living Savior, Jesus.

**MAY****1 Lei Day, Hawaii**

Throughout Hawaii, people make and wear leis—flower necklaces—with tropical flowers and perform traditional dances.

**5 Children's Day, Japan**

Kites in the shape of fish are flown to signify strength and courage. Children throughout the country participate in religious ceremonies where they are blessed by their parents and ancestors. Pray especially that the children of Japan will turn from false religions and find faith in Christ.

**Mother's Day, U.S.A.**

(Third Sunday) Thank God for your mother, especially if she is also your homeschool teacher!

**25 African Freedom Day**

African countries that are a part of the *Organization for African Unity* celebrate their independence through traditional dances, celebrations, sports, and rallies. Pray for peace throughout the continent of Africa, and for revival to spread to people who have yet to hear of God's freedom in Christ.

**JUNE****Father's Day, U.S.A.**

(Third Sunday) Pray for unsaved people in America, that they would come to know their heavenly Father.

**JULY****1 Canada Day**

On this day, Canadians celebrate the birthday of their country with fireworks and picnics. Pray that the people of Canada will see their need for God, and that the church will reach out to the lost.

**4 Fourth of July, U.S.A.**

Americans celebrate Independence Day with fireworks and picnics. Pray for America, that our country would return to its Christian roots and we would continue to be a great missionary-sending nation.

**14 Bastille Day, France**

In 1789, the French Revolution began with the storming of the Bastille (a royal prison). This was the beginning of freedom from oppression by the monarchy. The French celebrate with fireworks and dancing in the streets. Pray that the unsaved in France would recognize the devil's oppression and desire the freedom found in Christ.

**SUMMER****Sun Dance, Plains Indians**

Plains Indians throughout the U.S. perform an ancient sun dance ceremony honoring the buffalo. Pray that these Indians will recognize the living God who created everything, and they will not see Christianity as only a "white man's religion."

**SEPTEMBER****16 Independence Day, Mexico**

In 1810, a man named Father Miguel Hidalgo first sounded a call for Mexican Independence from Spain,

causing a revolution. The revolution ended in 1821, and Mexico became a free country. At midnight September 16, Mexicans gather in public squares to hear a call for independence, followed by fireworks and dancing.

**Meskerem, Ethiopia**

Each year after the rainy season has ended, the people of Ethiopia celebrate their new year. Children gather flowers and go from house to house singing songs and giving flowers away. In return, the children receive coins or candy. Pray for peace, health, and revival in Ethiopia.

**SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER****Rosh Hashanah, Israel**

At the beginning of the Jewish New Year a ram's horn, or shofar, is blown in the synagogues. This is a festive time of special foods and family celebrations, as the Jewish people reflect on the new year. Pray that Jews will recognize Jesus as their Messiah.

**Dates for Rosh Hashanah:**

September 25, 1995; September 14, 1996; October 2, 1997; September 21, 1998; September 11, 1999; September 30, 2000

**Tet Trung-Thu, Vietnam**

This is a celebration of the moon that comes at the time of the harvest moon. Moon cakes are eaten, and children make lanterns in the shapes of animals and other objects. At night, children carry their lanterns in parades and marches. Pray that the light of the Gospel would shine in Vietnam, and that people would come to know the creator of the sun, moon, and earth.

**OCTOBER****9 Hangul Nal, Korea**

On Hangul Nal, Koreans celebrate the beginning of their alphabet. Children take part in calligraphy contests instead of having regular school classes.

**31 Halloween, U.S.A.**

Derived from the hallowed eve of All Saints Day, many American children dress up as witches, ghosts, devils, or evil costumed characters and go "trick-or-treating" around nearby neighborhoods to receive candy. In other countries, people pay homage to dead ancestors. Pray for families to be able to discern good from bad, and to realize that the devil is real and not something to make light of.



## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

### Divali, India

Throughout India, people celebrate the Festival of Lights by placing lamps in their homes, windows, and on roofs and roads. They believe that these beautiful lamps will welcome the goddess of good luck, *Lakshmi*. In addition, the people clean their homes and make beautiful designs with colored powder on their floors. Pray that the people of India would turn from this false religion and recognize Jesus as the light of the world.

## NOVEMBER

### Loy Krathong, Thailand

For thousands of years, the people of Thailand have celebrated the Festival of the Floating Leaf Cups. On the night of the full moon in November, people make little boats out of banana leaves and place a candle inside. They take it to a river, light the candle, make a wish, and put it the boat on the water. They believe that if their candle stays lit until their boat disappears from sight that their wish will come true. Pray for the people of Thailand, that they will know that God is always there to answer their prayers.

## DECEMBER

### Chanukah (or Hanuka), Israel

Two thousand years ago, Syrian Greek rulers disgraced the Jewish temple and then ordered the Jews to worship Greek gods. For three years, the people of Israel fought for freedom, and finally their enemies gave up. The Jews cleansed their temple, and then lit a special candle called a *menorah*. The oil in this candle should have only lasted one day, but supernaturally, the candle stayed lit for eight days. Throughout the world, Jews celebrate this Jewish Festival of Lights by lighting candles each night for eight nights. Celebrations also include gift giving, eating traditional foods, and playing games. Pray for peace in Israel.

Dates for the first day of Chanukah:

December 18, 1995; December 6, 1996

December 24, 1997; December 14, 1998

December 4, 1999; December 22, 2000

### 13 Luciadagen, Sweden

In Sweden, there is a legend of St. Lucia, a Sicilian girl who gave away her dowry to feed the poor. She is known as the "Queen of Light"; this day celebrates the return of light after a dark winter. One day every year, the oldest girl in each family plays the part of St. Lucia. In the morning, she puts on a white dress and a ring of candles on her head, and brings coffee and special rolls to her parents. Pray that the people of Sweden would come to know Christ as the light of the world, and that missionaries would be raised up from this country to bring the light of Jesus to those who are spiritually poor.

### 16 Las Posadas, Mexico and Latin America

Throughout Mexico and Latin America, families celebrate Christmas by acting out the story of Mary and Joseph searching for lodging. In some areas, children carry large nativity figures of Mary and Joseph, while in other areas, a man and woman will dress as them. They go from house to house asking for a place to stay, and in the process, a procession is formed behind them. Finally, Mary and Joseph arrive at a house and are allowed in. They are placed by a manger, and then everyone joins in a celebration complete with a piñata for the children. Pray that people in Latin America would have a relationship with Jesus, not just a religion.

### 25 Christmas, International

The celebration of the birth of Christ is an important time for Christians as we realize how wonderful it was that God sent his Son to earth. As you look at evergreen trees, remind yourself of the tree of Calvary. As you look at Christmas lights and candles, remember that Jesus is the light of the world and that we are to be lights for Him. As you receive presents, remember the gifts of the wise men, and the greatest gift of all—salvation through Jesus Christ. Also discuss how the birth of Christ declared that His coming was for all people: rich and poor, Jew and Gentile, those near and those far away.