

The following lesson is the format I as well as the teachers under me use. We are open to improvement, but this procedure has produced good fruit consistently to the glory of God.

A "Praise Platune" consist of 7 consecutive notes of the musical alphabet either ascending or descending. These seven pitches or tones are named after the first seven letters of our alphabet A B C D E F G. Repeat A B C D E F G, seven notes in succession that repeat, comprise the Diatonic scale.

This makes me think of Psalms 119: 64. The palmist said he would **praise** the Lord seven times a day. Each time we sing or play and worship the Lord we put the praise platune into action and bring praise and glory to the throne of God. If you haven't looked around lately we are in the midst of battle and have need of going forth in warfare. The "Praise Platune" helps us do warfare in the Spirit.

Choose any tone or key on the piano. From that pitch proceeding seven tones up or down the piano, the eighth tone will be a **repeat in name** and the closest in pitch to the first note, only raised or lowered one **octave**. An octave is the interval from one pitch or tone of the same name to the next tone of the same name, either up or down from the starting point.



Gateposts

You have a doubling affect of name and close similarity of pitch. An octave proceeds either from space to line eight notes or line to space. The octave is our gatepost.

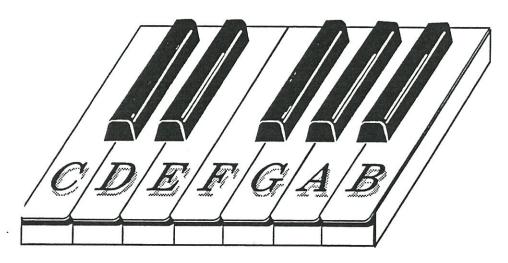
As you continue the octave is the gate. Here the "Praise Platune" begins to march in organization drills called scales.

A scale is a series of tones proceeding (ascending or descending from the first tone) in a systematic (fixed) pattern.

It can either ascend or descend within an octave. Depending on the pattern, it will form either a major or minor scale. Music in the Western World comes from the Greek diatonic scale of seven tones repeating on the eighth. Using the concordance, I found the meaning searching for another word. Dia, means channel (!(of an act)) and tonic begins the technical degree name of the first tone in a scale.

*Channel of the tonic This means it is central in its relationship to the other notes in the key. The music trend for the most part of the 1900's has moved away from this, you can draw your own conclusions.

Within a given key you will always have five black keys (tones) and seven white, whether played or not.

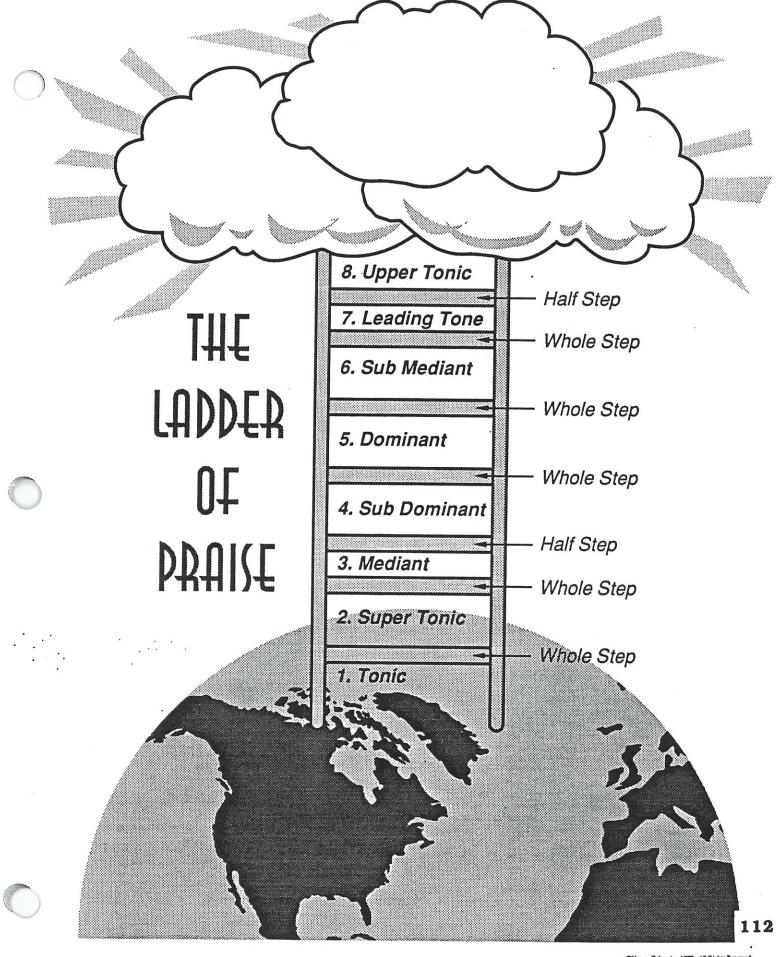


There are 12 half steps or semi-tones held within the scale.

The Italian word for scale is scala. This means ladder.

*(If you want to know more about this subject research Tonality.)

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The reference to ladder in the Bible means ladder or staircase which means to mound up, cast up, make plain, raise up exalt, extol. As you do the ascending-descending pattern it rather looks like a mound. With your pencil, draw an arch over the scale pattern.



Other Bible references to scales leads us to meanings used as armor, covering, shield as an opposing a force "against the enemy"!

It is also used to mean "balance beam" - God's justice as the law giver. (See article on "Preparing the Habitation" at the end of this chapter.

Remember our scripture from Isaiah 62:10

Go through go through the gate - said twice (as in the doubling of the octaves?) Prepare a way (Jeremiah 6:16) for the people, cast up, cast up the highway - the pathway from one key to another - spiritually a way of holiness as unto the **Lord**, gather out the stones - make it smooth as possible, remove things that would cause stumbling - Lift up a standard - a banner for the people - so they will see and know where to follow.

These musical scales are important for ear training as well as sight reading. They teach flexibility and dexterity to our fingers.

There are wonderful books of scales. I recommend Laura Benner's "Make Your Own Scales and Arpeggios".

Alfred has a brand new book out that has certainly shortened my work. It is called "The complete book of Scales, Chords, Arpeggios, and Cadances # 5743". Begin with one scale for the first couple of weeks, and then begin to add and master them at your own pace.

A wonderful way we have enjoyed counting is to first count each note of the scale as a quarter note in even time up eight notes and back. Then double your speed evenly up eight tones. When this is mastered double your speed again so that four sixteenth notes equal 1 beat. It's fun to sing these too, for voice and ear training as well!







The Altar of Praise



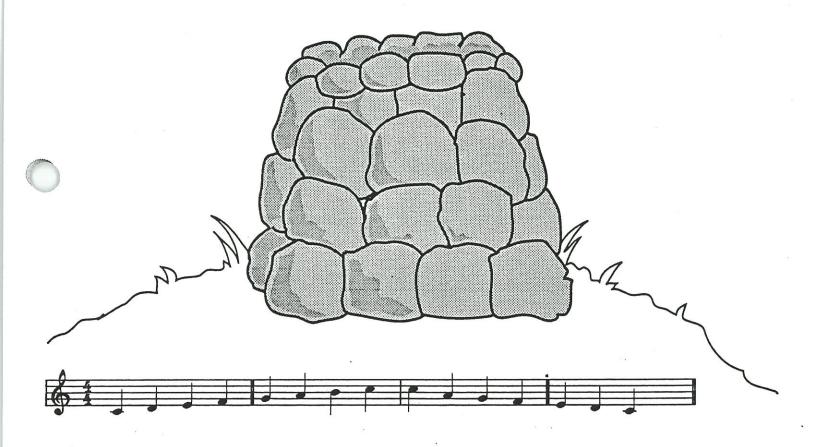


Take some notes of joyful tones arranged as glorious stones and build an altar of praise to the Ancient of Days,,,,,,

Build An Altar of Praise

Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice for all sins.

He calls us to be kings and priests (Rev. 1:6) to worship before Him. He calls us to offer ourselves daily a living sacrifice of humbling ourselves and to sacrifice praise with the fruit of our lips (Heb. 13; Psalm 57).



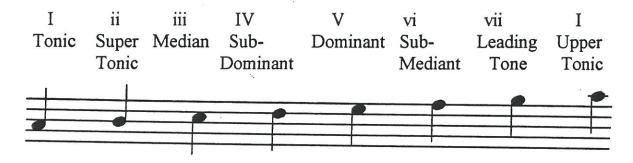
One of the definitions of 'ladder' is to mound, to cast up.

Song of Degrees

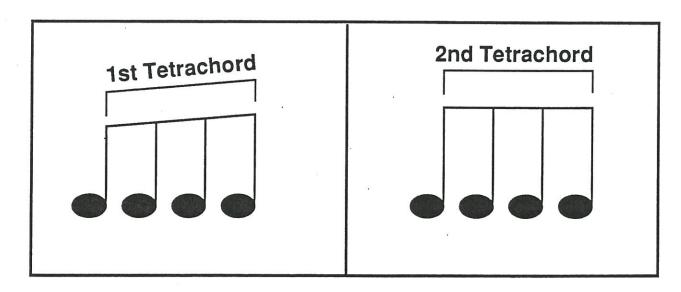
"Blessed is the people who know the joyful sound; they shall walk O Lord in the light of Thy countenance" Psalm. 89

Technical Degrees names for a scale:

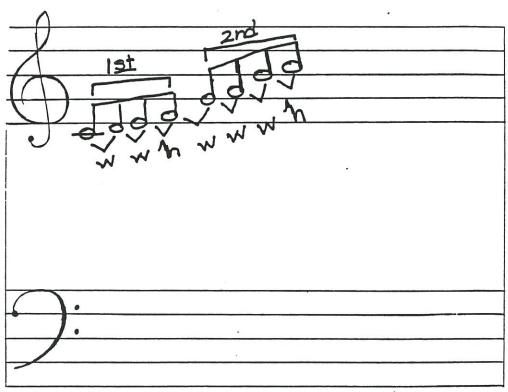
Each tone has a name and number;



and is divided into 2 parts of 4 tones each



The first tetrachord has 2 & 1/2 whole and half steps and the second tetrachord has 3 & 1/2 steps. The second tetrachord becomes the first tetrachord of the new scale. It creates a path from one scale to another. ;



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This exercise may be used from Book Two on. It demonstrates chord patterns and inversions. Chord inversions should be taught first on piano.

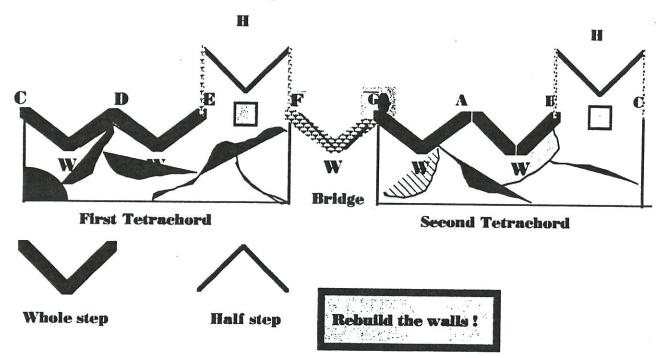
ex: C E G E G C G C E

tonic 1st inversion 2nd inversion

Exaltation follows a one - four - five pattern. For example in the key of C;

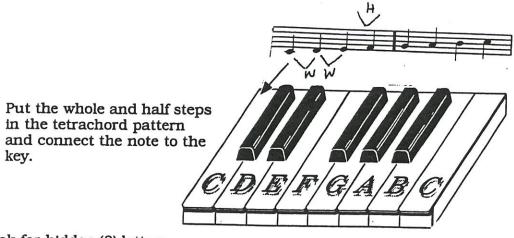
I. = the 2nd inversion of the C chord.
IV. = the first inversion of the F chord.
V. = the first inversion of the G chord.
This follows a pattern in all major keys.

Fortify The Walls



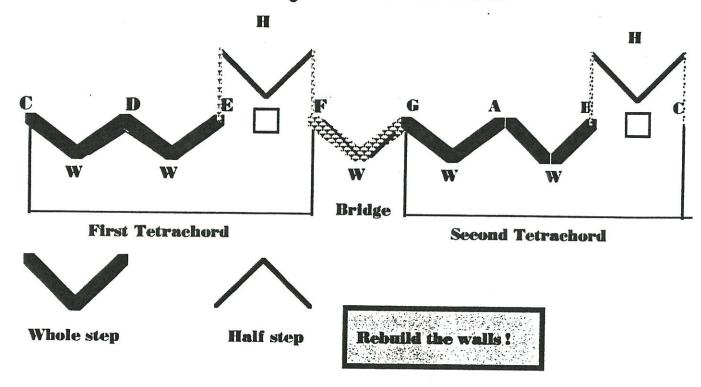
Here is a fun family project to bring in study out of the Bible about rebuilding the walls, fortifying the walls, being a repairer of the breach, the ministry of reconciliation. Take torn pieces of paper and glue them on the wall frame. You can make it larger if you with but still put in the concept of the letter names of the keys and the whole and half steps. This exercise is part of the believers going in to

" Posses the Land!"



Look for hidden (?) letters.

Fortify The Walls



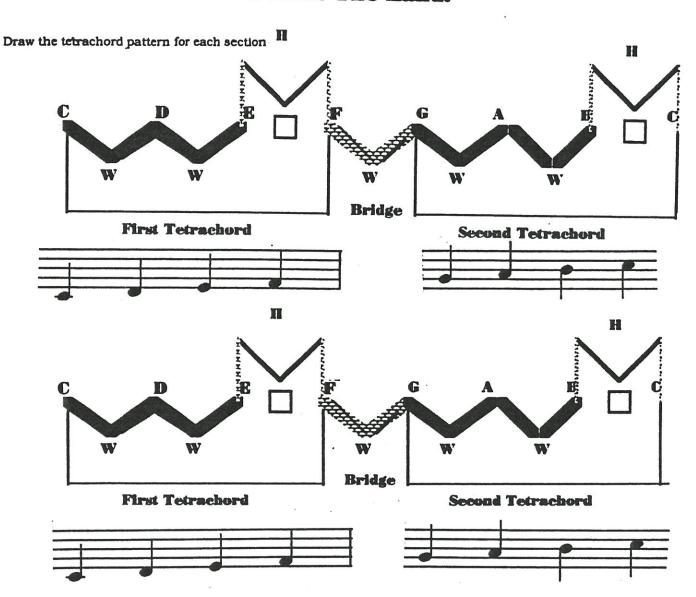
Think about the concepts we have learned that combine music and God's Word:

Scale

Tetrachord

What can we add to this?	

Posses The Land!



Our King Awaits!!!

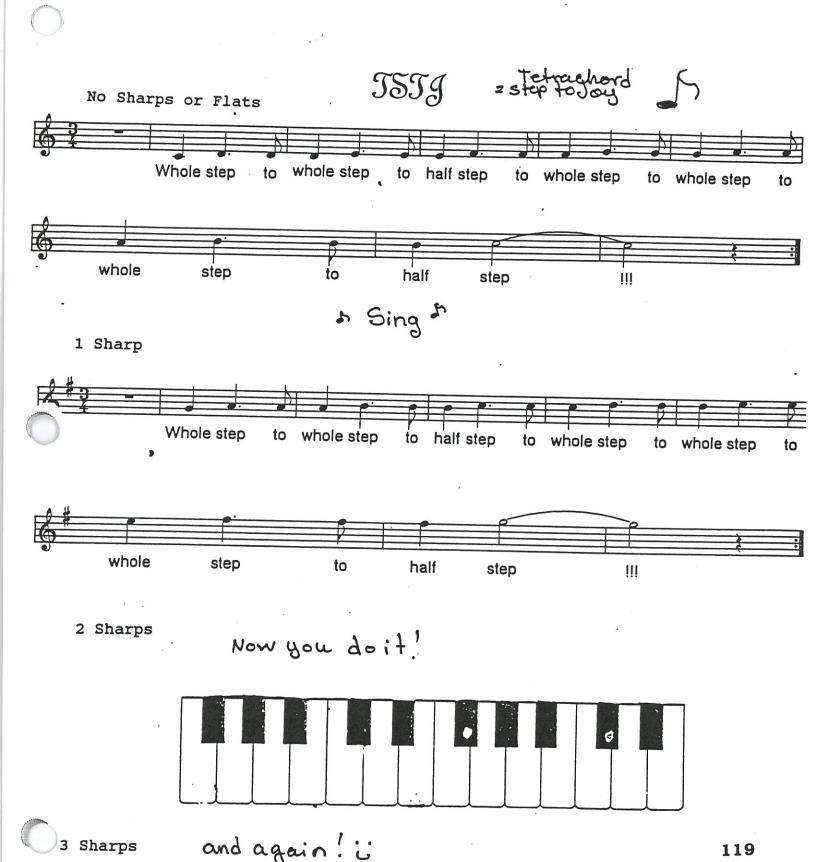
Rebuild the walls, "Posses the land" Restore the walls and take your stand.

The time come; Go through the Gates. The Lord is nigh. Our King a-waits.

Rebuild the walls of vic- tor-y with tones so lovely to worship the lord.

Lift-ing banners of worship high, the Army of the lord goes forth!

V. Notes to Teachers and Parents



A whole step must have either a white or black key in between each note whereas a half step on the keyboard is from one key to the next.

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Here are some characteristics of two very important technical degrees of the scale,

Tonic the first note of the scale

Central tone

Resolved

Complete tone

Home Tone

Key tone

Resting tone

Dominant the fifth note of the scale

Keeps things moving

Unfinished

Is used to go in or out of a key

In tetra chord format

Is complete when it resolves

In the tonic

Used to enter into a Key

as you progress in this course this will mean much more to you. Scale balance and the fairness of the **Lord**

Luke 13:30 says "The last shall be first and the first shall be last" So it is on the pathway of praise as we pass the torch from one key signature to another.

Tetra means <u>four</u> and thus you see the <u>four</u> notes in each tetra chord. This is not a chord like what we will discuss later, it is simply <u>four</u> tones in a row.

The pattern for moving from one key signature to the next key signature (How many sharps (#.s) or flats (b's) on the far left hand side of the treble clef) is as follow: pick up the second tetra chord and put it in the first tetra chord position and complete the scale by alphabetical order. The <u>fifth tone</u> or the dominant note becomes the first or tonic in the new key

and so on

Put a Keyhole around the dominant tone of each scale. Remember the dominant tone is the fifth tone of the scale.

In all keys containing sharps, you notice that the seventh degree is raised ½ step adding the new sharp. One half step up or right from the last or new sharp is the key tone in which the music is written.



In flat signatures the new flat is added on the fourth degree of the scale. The next to the last flat is the name of the key.



Order of Flats: Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb Fb

Order of Sharps: F# C# G# D# A# E# B#

Did you notice they reverse? More about this in the "Crown of Glory"

Intervals within an Octave

An <u>interval</u> is the pitch or tone difference from one given tone to another given tone within an octave.

Some time ago while reading my Bible the Lord brought a scripture to my attention, but I was pre-occupied and didn't pay much attention. A few days later He brought it to my attention again. Getting the reference books I began to look up each word and phrase. I got so excited I could hardly stand it.

Scripture I Cor. 14:7 "and even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp except they give a <u>distinction</u> in the *sounds*, how shall it be known what is piped or harped"

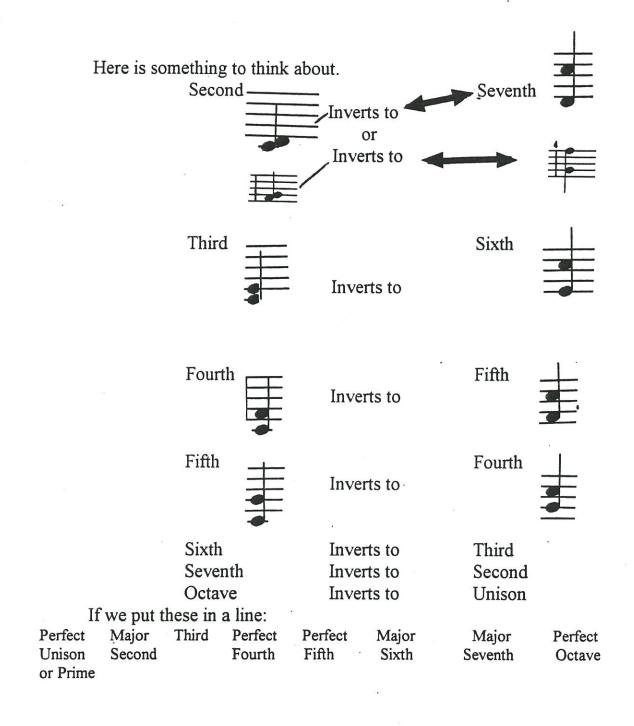
The word <u>distinction</u> is of particular interest to us.. It means making a difference. It means we play with clear pure tones not confusing or distorted sounds. It means letting the **Creator** of the Universe create new wonderful songs in our hearts to bring **Him**.

Glory, Honor, Worship

Here let's review what we have done before.



Perfect Major Major Perfect Perfect Major Major Perfect Unison 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave

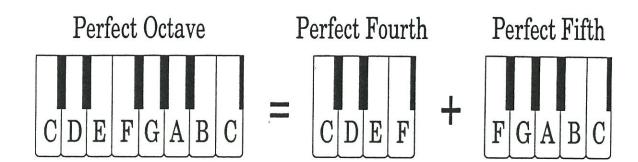


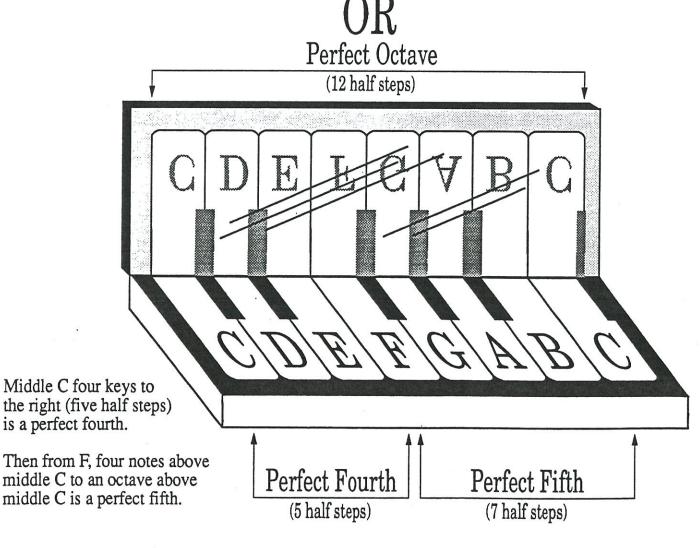
What do these look like? Waves? Resounding throughout creation, going forth to the ends of the earth!

Ps. 19: 4. Psalm 19 is a wonderful example of how the Lord speaks to us through His creation, verses 1-6 and through His Word verses 7-14.

A "Perfect" Fit

As for God, His way is perfect . . . (Psalm 18:30-32)





The number of letter names between intervals determines the <u>number of the interval</u>

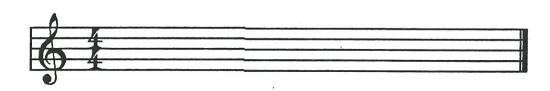
(1-5) (1-5)

The number of whole and half steps between intervals determines the <u>quality</u> of the interval. Words used to describe the quality of an interval are:

Major decreased ½ step becomes minor decreased ½ step becomes diminished 0 augmented + is a major raised ½ step.

Perfect lowerered ½ step becomes diminished Augmented + is a perfect Interval raised ½ step.

A Perfect interval can never be major. A Major interval can never be perfect. (See Edith McIntosh Book 2:1 on intervals)



Intervals certainly are a part of the **praise platune** in musical harmony and spiritual warfare.

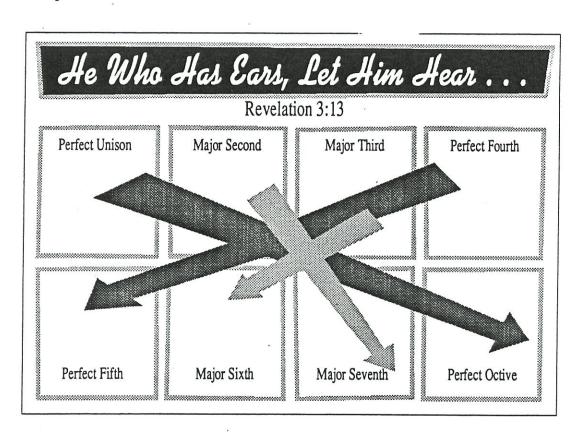
The domain of music belongs to those who follow Jesus Christ. A difference is part of our birthright. It is ours to make.

The Lord is our:

Is. 12:2	Ex. 15.2
1	
2	
3	

A Decision

It was almost half time at our younger son's basketball game. I began to feel very restless sensing the half-time music most likely would be something I should not be listening to. I arose and went out to the car. There on a piece of scratch paper in the dim lights from the school building, I roughly drew the following graphics that Pastor Greg so beautifully did. The first shows the inversion of intervals we have been learning about. The pattern of arrows indicates the battle of music in spirtual warfare.

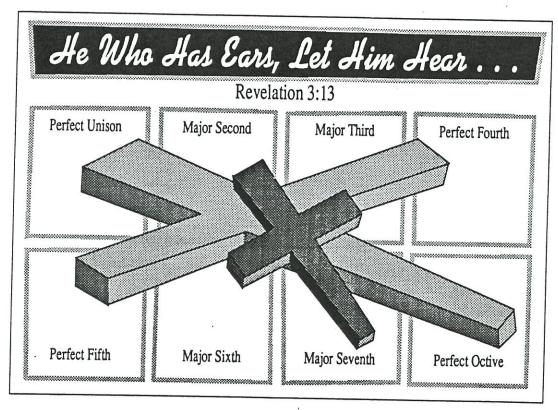


Arrows direct	1
Is. 49	2
Is. 20	3.
2 Chr	4. Sings praises sound of distinction
1 Cor	5
Zeph.	6.Arrows
Rev. 3	7. Hear the Word of the Lord to the Churches - His War Cry
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We are the Redeemed We are His Forgiven

Looking at the larger picture we see the Cross. Isn't that always the bigger picture and the bottom line? In both of the pictures we see one larger and one smaller - "A kind of doubling affect". The faithfulness of Christ our Savior, is seen throughout music. The Song of the Lord is on His People...

Therefore "Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of His and give thanks at the remembrance of His Holiness (Ps 30:4, 5)".



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Here's a fun family activity!

Major Second Major Third

Perfect Unison

Major Second

Perfect Fourth

Major Sixth

Major Seventh

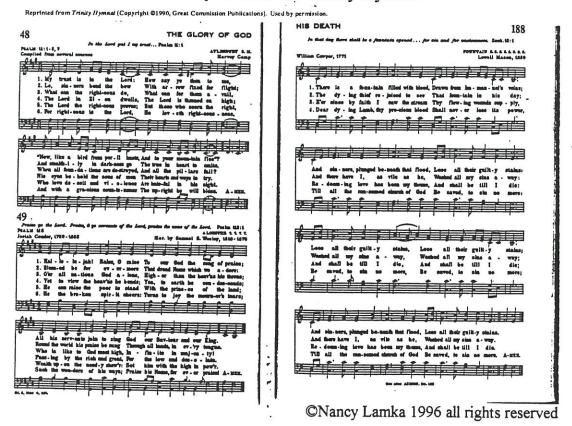
Perfect Octive

Intervals (cont.) "He who has ears - let him hear" - Revelations 3:3

Here is a fun family activity. In preparing ourselves for the outpouring of God's Spirit, it is important to know what intervals we are hearing. Begin by playing octaves, then unison, then add thirds, and so on listening on the piano maybe taking a new interval every few days until they are mastered. The following chart is for your use to search through hymn books and use only **the first two notes or tones** of the melody line. In most cases this would be the soprano line. Many times the first note is a pickup note. The distance between the first two notes **record under the corresponding interval** such as "Amazing Grace" C - F record under perfect fourth, "Sweet Hour of Prayer" under a major third (C-E), and so on. See if you can find one for each interval. Then use the hymns as ear training so when the first two or three notes are played the hymn will remind the student of the interval.

Psalm 31:; "Lord, help us to have fresh clear hearing from ears you have dug."

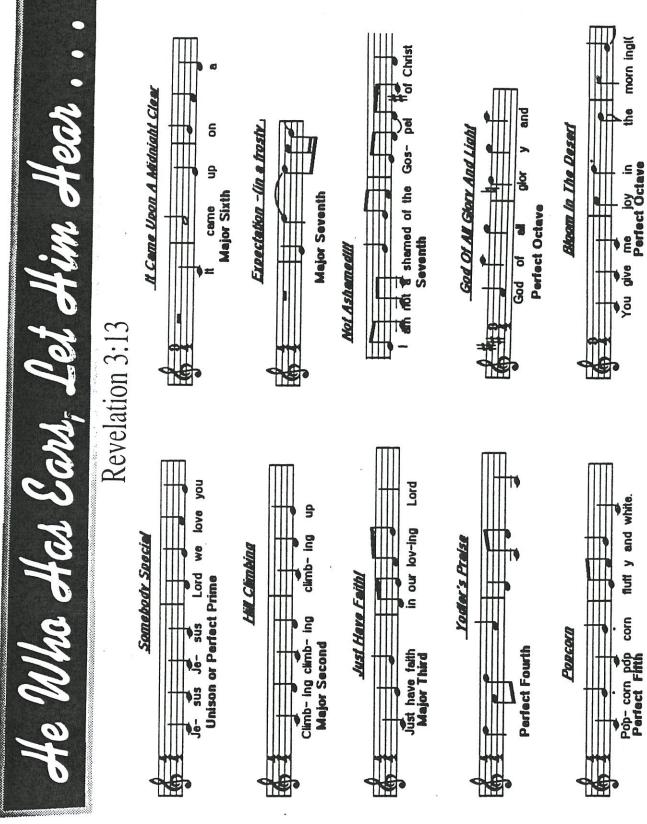
Here are a few more examples from the Trinity Hymnal



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Identify the stated intervals with a Or



Intervals

Scripture songs provide the use of creation and the Word. Let's examine this a little further. Scripture, When the Lord speaks to me He speaks to me through His Word, in a song He gives, sometimes even if it doesn't have words because His voice is a voice of distinction. He tells us to play or sing with distinction. The root word means **interval** or space. The Greek words surrounding and referencing to this word. Diastema channel of the pure interval means to be set apart choosing to set oneself apart, as in making a difference. - being channels and allowing the beautiful intervals to be full of blessing for those around us. "Lord, make us clean pure channels of Your Spirit so we can to the fullest make a difference with clear pure tones and intervals of distinction to bring praise and honor before Your throne.

Pulling the threads of our tapestry a bit tighter we remember King David, the writer of psalms, who had an intiment closeness to the Lord. David cried to the Lord to send forth His (the Lord's) light and his truth in waves of glory. The Lord who sings over us (Zepaniah 3:19) whose voice is like that of many waters brings a new song to the heart of the psalmist to help him focus again clearly, bringing him into right relationship and to the altar of **God**.

Psalm 43:3-4 "O send out Thy light and Thy truth, let them lead me; Let them bring me to Thy holy hill And to Thy dwelling places. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; And upon the lyre I shall praise Thee, O God, my God"

Church, we need that cry again today, so we can return wholeheartedly to our first love - our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And only our Lord could have woven into the texture of His Word the meaning both spiritually and musically of distinctive intervals right into a verse using musical instruments. And the distinctive intervals are carried into the next verse about the call to battle - worship warfare. I Corinthians 14:7 and 8.

Music enjoyment comes to us as we praise the Lord not only with instruments but vocally as well. There is a special added fulfillment from singing unto the Lord.

For many people this becomes a chore rather than enjoyment if anyone else is around. The problem is two-fold. First is the inability to sing in more than one octave making it difficult to sing all the notes in a song because it's not pitched in your range and second is never having enough air to hold the notes without being breathy. Like so many people you say "I can't sing or you are so afraid of how you sound your never sing in public or when others are around or only sing the notes you know you can hit.

Now I want you to bear with me just a few minutes. I'm not going to give you a complete course on singing and voice training but I am going to give you a few things you can do to greatly increase your enjoyment of singing while at the same time improving your quality of voice and range of tone. You say "Right, do I get a voice transplant?" Not exactly, but you will think you did when we are through. Now let's do this a step at a time.

In an instrument you have a resonating chamber which take the small vibrations and enlarges them. In a piano a soft hammer hits a string which vibrates, giving off sound. The sound vibrates off a chamber or sounding board enlarging the sound. If you open the top of the piano, the sound grow louder. A better example to compare with the voice is a trumpet. Your lips vibrate on a mouth piece when air crosses them, giving off sound but is greatly enlarged and improved as it vibrates through the horn and out the bell of the instrument.

When you sing, the vibration comes from the vocal cords then resonate off the pharynx, the nasal passage, and the mouth. If you sing with your mouth closed you tones will be nasal because the greatest air passage is through you nose. The sound we want should come form the roof of your mouth and upper throat in conjunction with the bone in your nose. Now if that sounds too complicated, just remember to drop your jaw and open your mouth and square your lips. All of that will do you no good without the next steps, which are all part of breath control.

The area of concentration is the diaphragm and the rib cage. Proper posture is vital in order to have deep breathing. Once you inhale a large volume of air you must learn to hold it back while singing. Small releases of air can give massive volumes of sound. Here is where your stomach muscles come into play or work. As a need arises for sustaining a sound or hitting a note that seems out of reach simply tighten you abdominal area as though forcing the sound out of your belly while holding back air for the next note. It really works. I guarantee it. Also when

you have to inhale do if through your mouth. You can take in a great deal of air at once, where breathing through your nose only brings in small quantities of air at a time. Practice dong this while singing scales and watch your voice range rapidly increase. Don't worry about your voice cracking, if you use your voice muscles and mouth correctly the sound will resonate correctly.

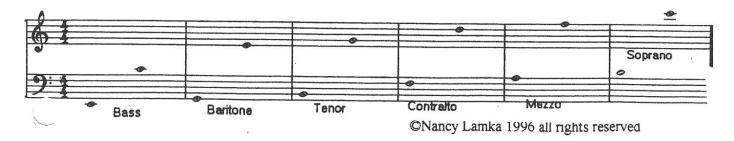
Voice Exercises

Do each exercise as you progress from key to key.









Chords

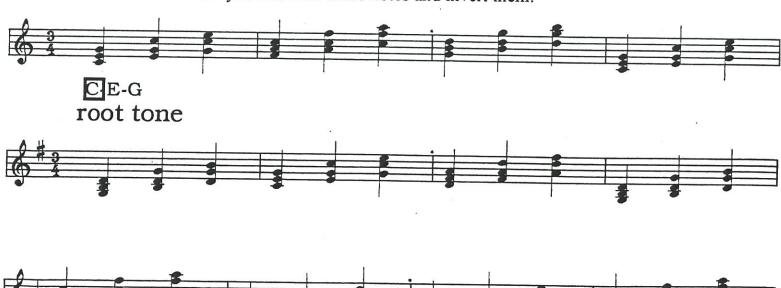
A threefold cord (chord) is not easily broken. This is referring to a rope that is very strong because of the inner twining of the fibers! Not only can this be applied to the family, it rings true with notes musically for here we will find something beautiful woven within the wave lengths themselves.

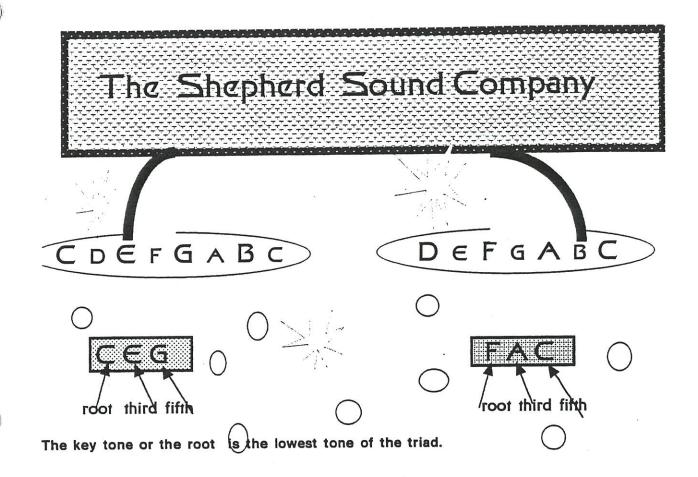
Overtones



The first tone is called the fundamental. From this other pure tones follow. First is the octave, then the second octave containing the Tonic to Dominant (C-G) and C - G - C octave which contains the perfect fifth to fourth inversion and then C - E - G a three fold chord. (See overhead of crosses)

A major triad is built on the tonic, mediant, and dominant notes of a scale. Now you can take those notes and invert them.





In Their Simplest Form

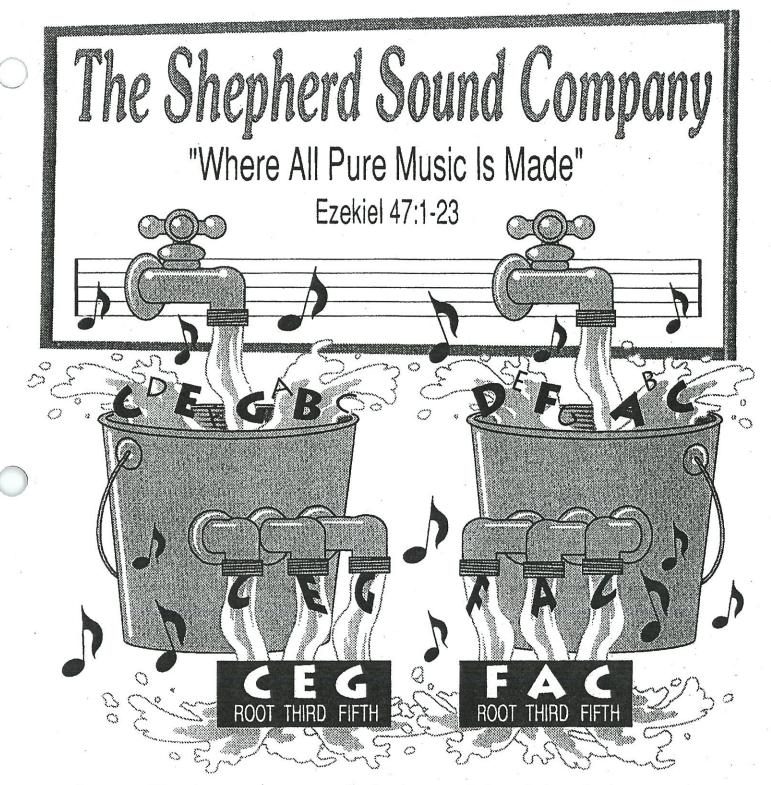
Select a tone on the keyboard. Any chord may be created by using the keytone plus the third and fifth tone above it.



Major minor minor Major Major minor Diminished Major

I ii iii IV V vi vii VIII (I)

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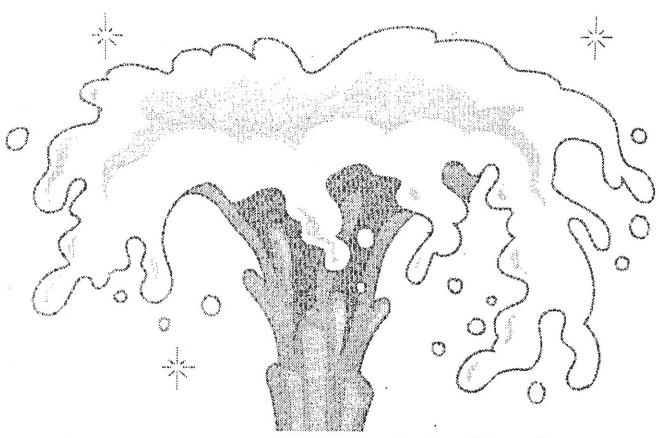


The key tone or root is the lowest tone of the triad.

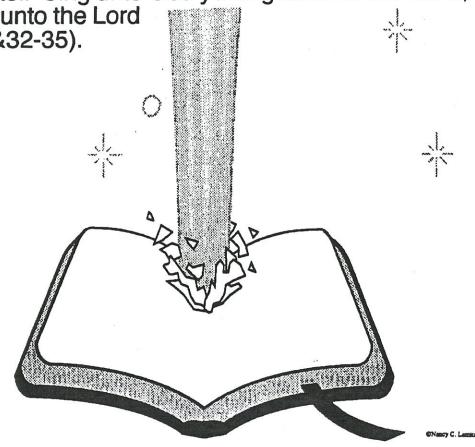
In Their Simplest Form

Select a tone on the keyboard. Any chord may be created by using the keytone plus the third and fifth tone above it.

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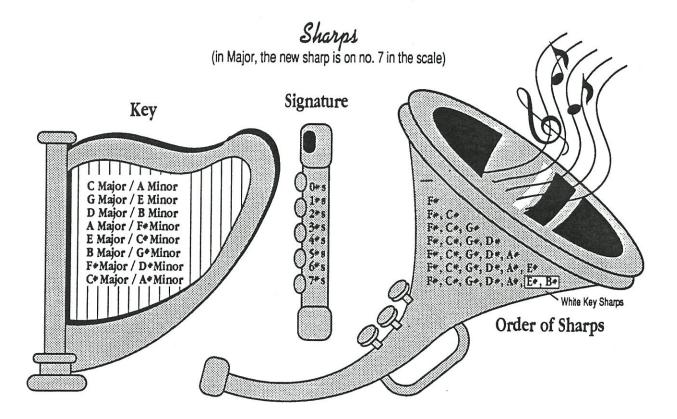


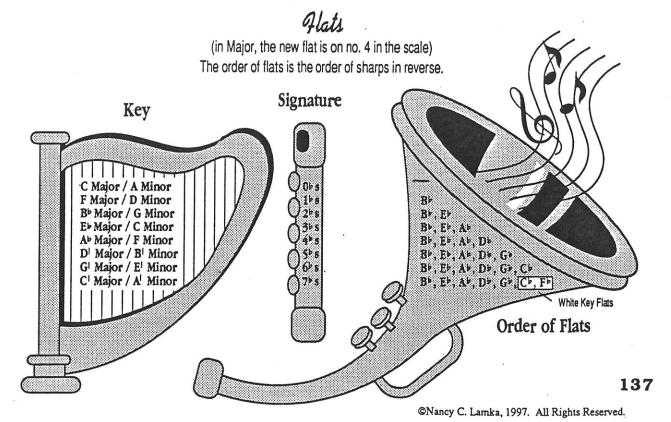
Bless ye God in the congregation...even the Lord from the fountain of Israel. Sing unto God ye kingdoms of the earth, o sing praises unto the Lord Ps. 68: 25-26&32-35).



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Playing With Distinction (I Corinthians 14:7,8)

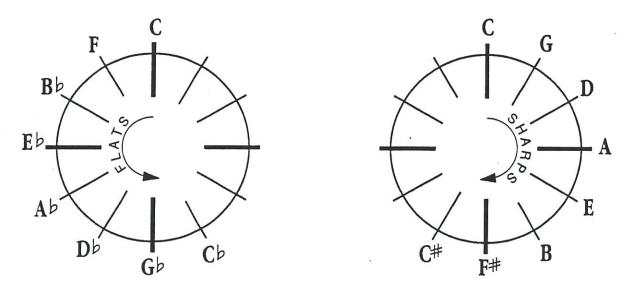




Obtaining a Crown

Do you remember how we began at the piano? We had three dots: red (C), blue (F), and yellow (G).

"Middle C" is so-called because it is at the center of the acoustic keyboard. Beginning then with middle C, if we count five notes (or letter names) to the left, we come to the blue dot F - Faithfulness and continue on around the side. If we count five letter names to the right, we find yellow dot G - Goodness and continue on around the # side.



Therefore, beginning with C and going five letter names either way we have a connection of all scales which forms a circle called the "Crown of Glory for the Savior"

This circle reminds me of Christ, for He is everlasting and the Crown signifies His reign unending (Is. 57:19). to Dominant to Dominant

The movement goes from tonic to Tonic until the Crown is complete!

Christ is the Heavenly Father's gift to us. He is at the <u>Center of all things</u> and through him all things consist (Col 1:16-19). He is our song the Bible says (Is12:12)

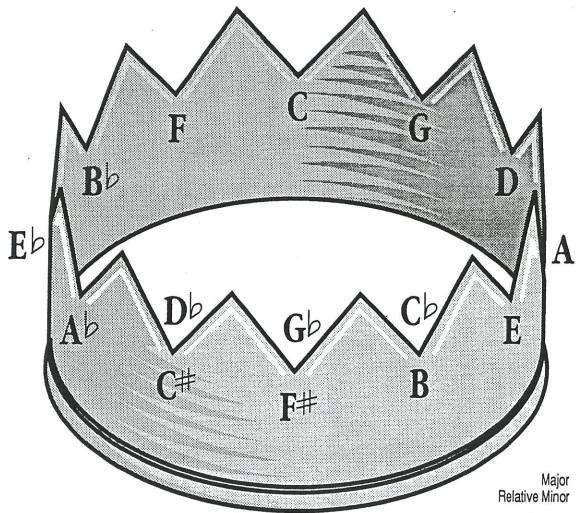
and His song continually penetrates our lives through His Word. Christ is God's goodness and faithfulness to us.

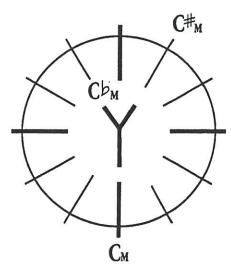
From the very onset of our adventure, Christ's plan was more than three dots

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The Crown of Glory

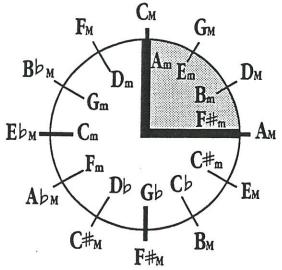
For The Savior





C major, no #s or bs C b major has all seven bs C #major has all seven #s Yeshua
Yaweh
Any way you
look at it,
Jesus is our
beginning
and end.

(Eph.1:23; REV. 21:6)



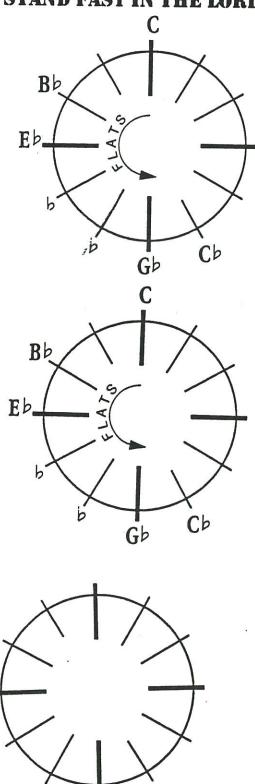
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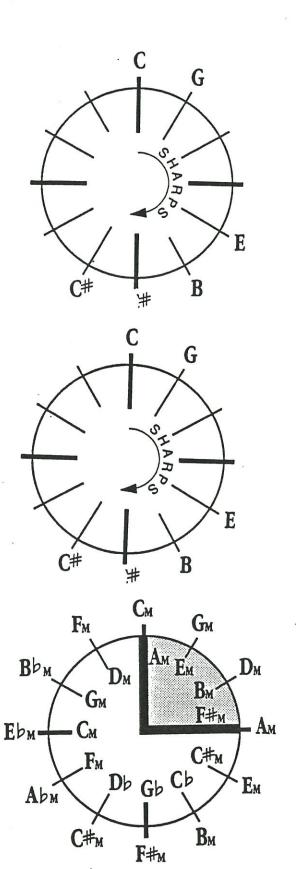
· FIDAL ROWN Enharmonic Keys 1#f

More Than Conquerors Through CHRIST!

Christ's Great Dominion's Above **Every** Battle **Always** From **Ends** Circumstances **Beating** For He's taken captivity captive, and He's made a By His Blood and **Death on the Cross** Foe He's conquered, show of them every foe and openly principality!!!! 140A

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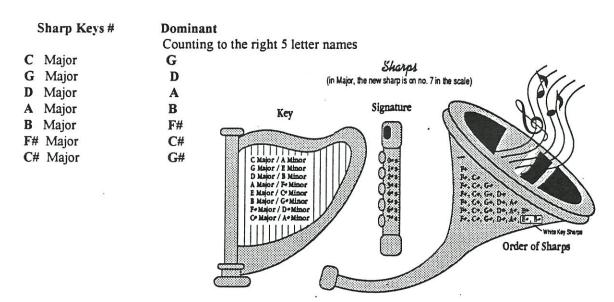


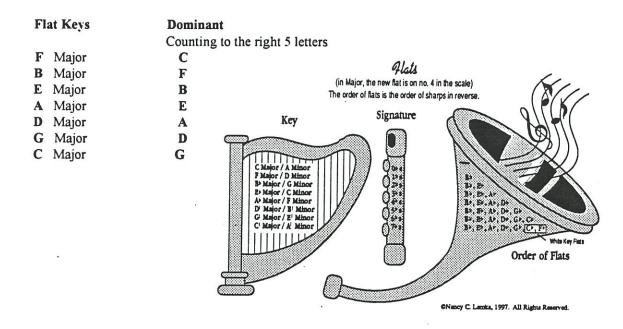


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The Crown of Glory

The dominant note or the fifth degree of a scale is important to us. Use the keyboard provided and let's identify the dominant tone in each scale

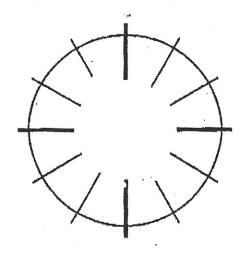




! Jots and Tittles!

Two sharps F# C# Four flats BhEhAhDh	Three sharps F# C# G# Three flats B/E/A b	Four Sharps F# C# G# D# Two flats BhE b	Five sharps F#C#G#D#A# One flat B	
Six sharps F#C#G# D# A# E#	Seven sharps F# C# G# D# A# E# B#	Five flats Bb EbAbDb Gb	Six flats BbEhADh GhCh	
Seven flats BbB AbDb GbCbFb	One sharp F#	The empty signature no sharps no flats		

Cut out the cards. You may laminate them first if you wish. Notice that as you review the flats the key signatures spell Faith B E A D (s) the Crown of Glory and repeats up (counterclockwise) the sharps side. Either have family teams or individual members to fill the "crown" With musical jewels.



Place cards face down

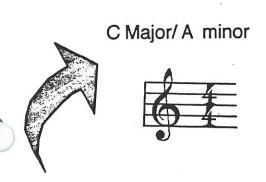
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The next step in instruction could be going from one scale to the next simply by taking the second tetra chord and placing it in the first tetra chord position and proceed in the musical alphabet order four more notes. By doing this you follow the tetra chord format of whole step, whole step, half step, whole step, whole step, whole step, whole step, whole step, whole step, which will take you in a pattern circle of fifths for our purposes we call "The Crown of Glory" for the Master.



Up to this point we have focused mainly on major scales and keys. Two more things we should interject here are Relative Minor and Parallel Minor.

Relative Minor/Majors share the **same** key signature.



Parallel Major/Minors share the **same name**.



Relative Minor

Share the same key signature as the major key. It is found by going 3 letter names to the left or a step and a ½ or you can also begin on the sixth degree of the scale - the submediant.



Paralled Minor - share the same letter name as the major. A parallel minor is at a right angle from the major on the crown of glory.



Minor Scales

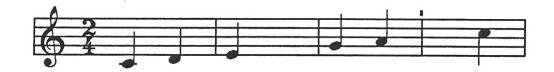


More Scales

Chromatic Scale



Gap Scale



Gap Scale

Gap scales are used in music by many groups of people: Native American Indians, Mountaineers, the British, and different areas of Asia.



Whole Tone Scale



<u> ABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABCDEFGABC</u>

Last note on the treble clef

Lowest note
on the piano

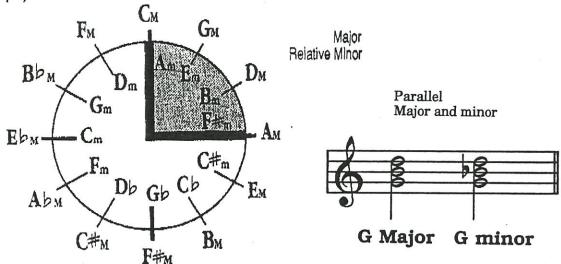
The "Why" of the Piano

Look at the piano keys. Which is the <u>first</u> note? If you said "A, " you are correct. We can identify the <u>last</u> note on the piano as -------C.

Beginning on the first note of the piano "A," proceed by thirds or triads.

A triad is a three-tone chord.

Remember, to form a minor triad or chord, use a minor third (1 1/2 steps) plus a major third (2 whole steps). A major chord is reversed (2 whole steps plus 1 1/2 steps)



Examine the ""Crown of Glory "". Following the pattern from A minor to C major, we have A-C-E, C-E-G. Then proceed clockwise forming the Crown 'by building the next chord on the middle tone as follows:

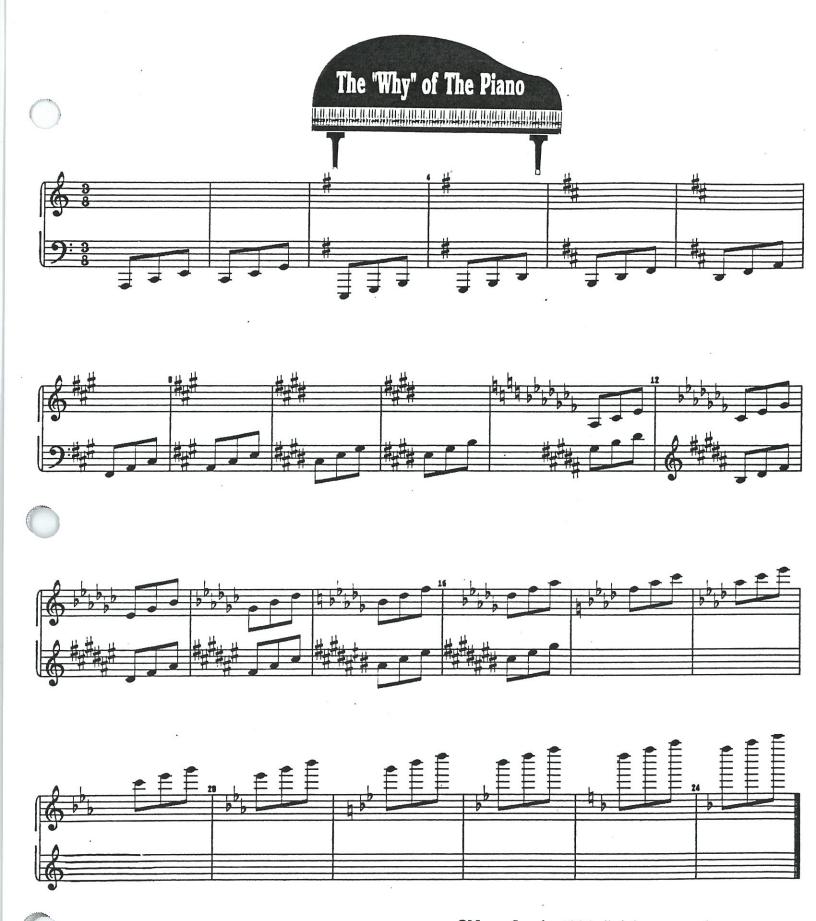
Am / CM Em / GM Bm / DM F#m / AM C#m / EM A - C - E, C - E - G, E - G - B - D, BDF#, D - F # A, F # - A - C + E, C # - E - G # B

G#m / BM

G#-B-D#, B-D#-F# --- --- --- --- --- ---

and so on. Follow the instructions carefully.

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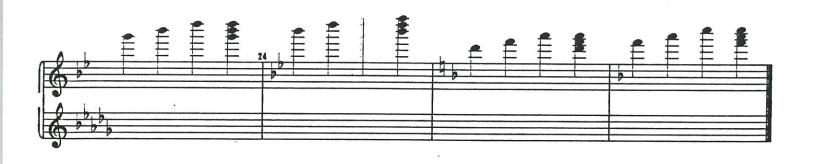








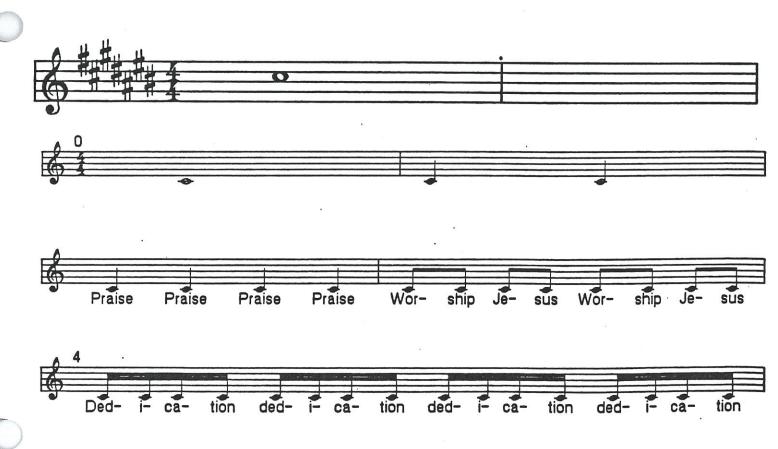




The Order of Sharps







The Order of Flats







The Order of Flats



Please insert the correct name.

The Order of Sharps



Please insert the correct name.

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As for God, His way is perfect. .



It is interesting that in our pattern of chords and the inversions thereof, we use a pattern again of the_____

When you want to improvise a song the easiest way to begin is to choose a hymn and lets say its in the Key of G, what is the first note (tone) in the G Scale? G that is correct. What is the fourth tone? G is one A two B is three, C is four and D is your dominant or your fifth. The G Chords, C Chords and D chords will be the ones to use as your "sound" foundation. The sixth or submediant is important too because you will notice that some of the hymns substitute the relative minor for the tonic at certain points in the song.



TIV I Chords G onord G stinversion 2 inversion GDB ECG FCA Ab chord 1stinuession G b chord Db chord 2rdinversion A°E°C G'D'B FDA G Stinversion A 1 stinversion D 2nd invesion F *DA AEC* GDB Sec. 30. 35 B' chord 15 nuersion Abchard Ebchord 2nd newsian A E C BFD GEB" A chord E 2 inversion B 1 stinversion BF*D* G*EB AEC. B b chord

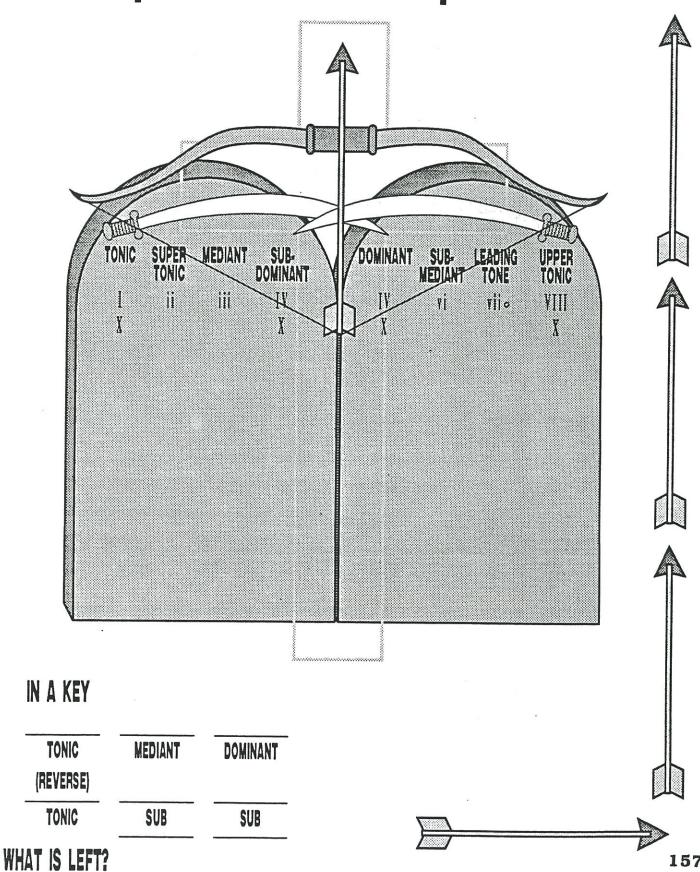
B inversion Cohord Clarinversion F and inversion BFD AFC CGE b chard 1stinversion Gb-Gbchord Zndinversion B 1 Fracion BGF" DBABF BGDb C Isinversion G-G 2 inversion Distinuersion DAF CGE BGD Eb chord

E 1stinversion D' chord

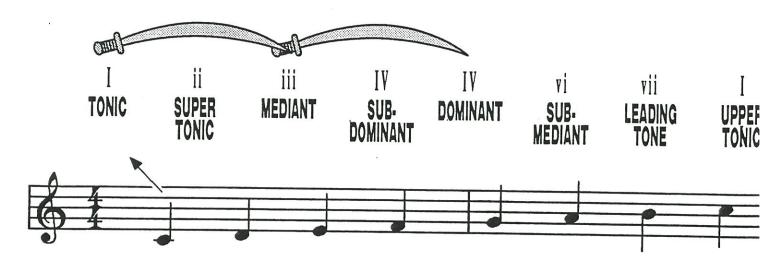
D' stinversion Abchord 2nd inversion EBG DAF CABEL E 12 inversion D 1 Finversion Achord 2nd inversion DAF EBG Ebchard E Finversion F 1 Sinversion B 2 nd inversion EBB G DB°F FCA F# chord Finversion E Chord E I = Inversion B 2 inversion D*BF* F#C"A" EBG#

ารที่ เรียกรัฐที่ (กูลเล รัฐ เรียกับได้สัญวิทาสเทศโดยเกาตลาที่สุด ที่สุดสูติดสุดสุดสุดสุดสุด

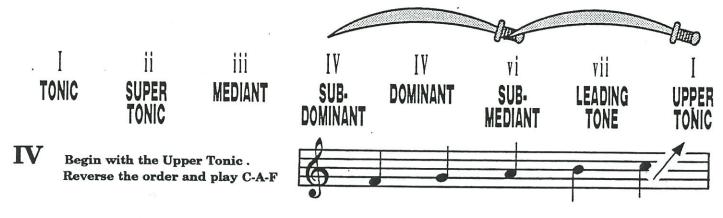
Weapons of Worship Warfare

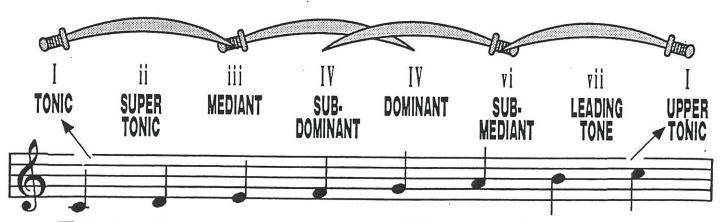


Weapons of Worship Warfare



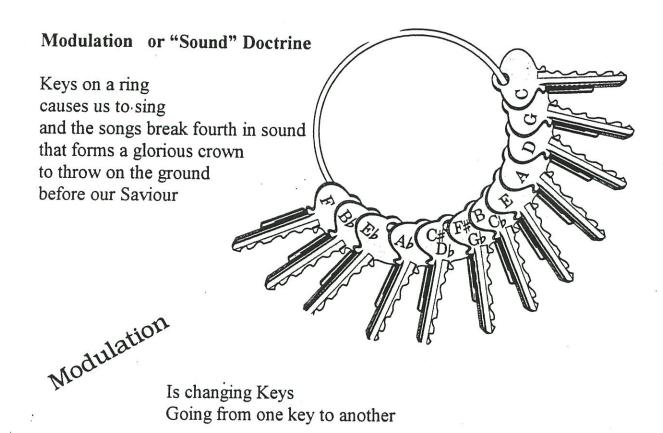
Begin with the Tonic . Play C-E-G . Put an X or dot under the notes you play . Notice the I, IV, V pattern.





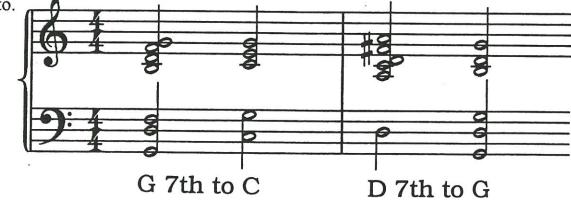
What notes are left? (The Super Tonic and the Leading Tone which is the V7)

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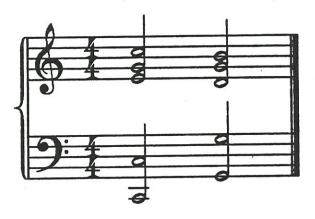


Modulation is the name of moving the **praise platune** from one key to another. - This is another way we can possess the "Land" in a different key. There are several common ways we can do this

Use the Dominant or preferably Dominant 7 of what ever key you are going into.



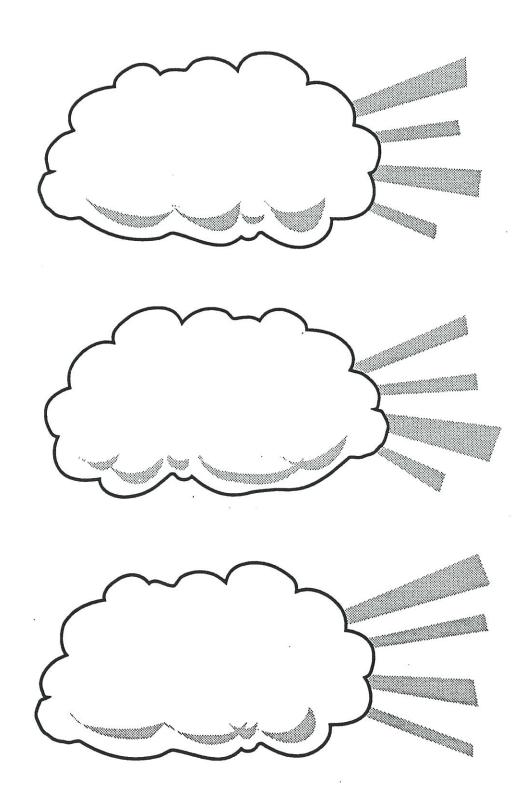
Another way is to go from the subdominant chord (IV) of the Key you want to enter or any inversion of that chord. Let's say you want to go in the Key of G, The fourth note in G is C so you could play a C octave, or C chord but not a Seventh - just CEG or an inversion.



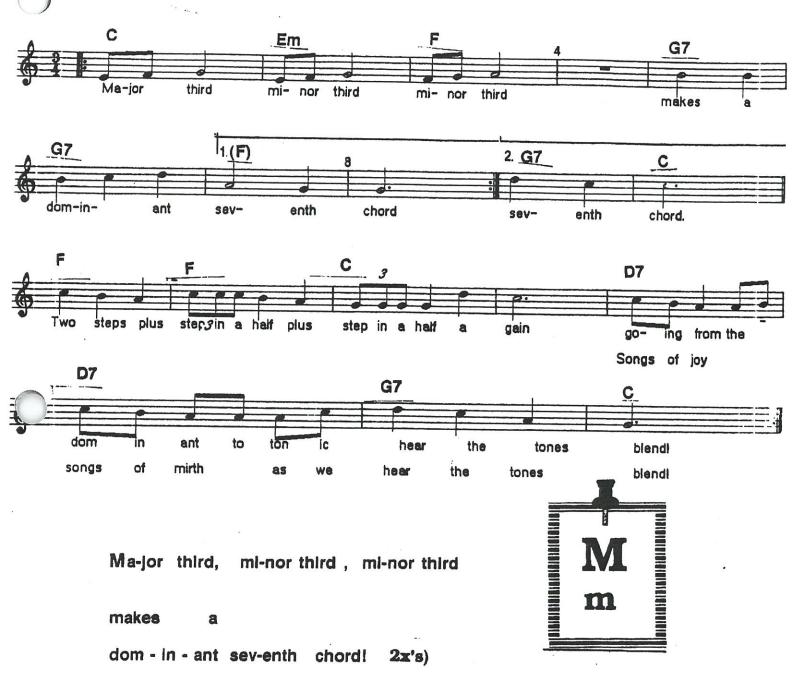
A fun way to go into a minor is to, reverse the first tetra chord. let's use C major which would be ascending CDEF, descending would be FEDC. Enter through the leading tone B to A, the submediant and relative minor! Actually you are sounding an E Dominant 7th using passing tones to the relative minor.



"Bright Clouds"



ound Directions



Two steps plus step and a half, plus step and a half a-gain 1. go-ing nom the

dom-in-ant to to -nic, hear the tones blend!

2.songs of joy, songs of mirth, hear the tones blend!

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Embarking On Level II

Bloom

- 1. Learning to worship in the wilderness of our lives
- 2. Extending the grand staff-leger notes

Heartstrings

1. The heart of a worshiper in worship warfare

Even now as I write this there is such joy and excitement within my heart. I think back on the word the Lord gave me in the fall of 1996, and the vison of the geyser springing forth form the word of God. The Lord is about to do something really fantastic. What is our responsibility in the midst of this revelation?

- a. Allow the Lord to do a deeper work of sanctification in our hearts. Ask him to make us willing to pay the price of commitment to Him.
- b. Notice that before the children of Israel had a great victory, there was always the call for **moral purity**.- SURRENDER Forsaking all that would defile you. For some of us it would mean getting rid of unforgiveness, bitterness, resentment, and pride.

The word says to open your heart - the Lord will cleanse you by His blood Open your mouth and His song will over-flow you like a flood

Open your hands and He will train you for the battle that's ahead Open your eyes and He will reveal needs around you like He said

Open your mouth and He'll cause you to His Glory now proclaim Lift up your arms and He'll help you do warfare in His Name

Open your ears and He'll cause you to hear from Him once again To show you His love - His unfailing love - to guide you from all sin!!

The following article will help us better understand how to prepare our hearts for worshiping the Lord.

Preparing for the Flood

1. The ark that Noah built was

- a. A safe place
- b. symbolic of God's salvation
- c. protection from destruction
- d. The Lord's provision for a new beginning

2. Passover

- a. A safe place covering of blood
- b. God's salvation from the Death Angel
- c. protection form destruction
- d. The Lord's provision for a new beginning

3. The Ark of the Covenant was

- a. The place where God dwelt
- b. Containing Gods' Law (10 commandments) His covenant with man
- c. Containing evidence of His Power (Aaron's Rod-that budded)
- d. Containing God's Provision (Manna)
- e. Providing His Mercy (The Mercy Seat)
- f. Presence of Gods Glory in Purity (Overlaid with gold)
- g. A Protected Relationship where God would meet with man (protected by "The Cherubius")

4. In Second Chronicles Chaper 20 God used the Song of the Lord

- a. Safe place refuge
- b. Deliverance and Salvation
- c. Protection from destruction
- d. The Lord's provision for a new beginning

- 5. Jesus is all of the above as He is our:
 - a. Safe place (Proverbs 18:10) Refuge
 - b. Salvation Savior of the world
 - c. Our protection from eternal destucton
 - d. Our provision for a new beginning I Corinthians 5:17

- 6. Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return and come with singing unto Zion, an everlasting joy shall be upon their heads... (Isaiah 51) The flood of the Spirit of God in song is:
 - a. God's provision
 - b. His protection
 - c. The manifestation of His presence, power, and glory among His people
 - d. The cleansing and provison for a new beginning

Our response is to:

- 1. Purify our hearts before God
- 2. Commit to seeking Him as never before
- 3. Carry out the instructions in the Word systematically (before the Lord). If this means that we need to reorganize our schedules, then do it.
- 4. Put your faith in action and run off one hundred sheets of score paper and get ready!

BOOM! The Lord just gave me a scripture:

Psalms 40: I waited patiently for the Lord. He inclined His ear and heard my cry. He brought me up out of the horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and estaablished my goings, and He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God, many shall see it and fear and shall put their trust in the Lord.

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We are to dig a well and sing into it... The song of the Lord. Lets look at Numbers 21:18---Wow! I am just writing down scriptures as the Lord is giving them to me. I hadn't looked up the reference for scripture 5a. Now that I have read the whole section lets back up to Numbers 21:16b. The Lord said to Moses, "Gather the children of Israel together and I will give them water."

Then the children of Israel sang the song---Spring up o well, and sing ye into it. The princes digged the well, the nobles digged it by the direction of the lawgiver, with their staves. The children of Israel complained that

And they were very thirsty. The Lord in His wisdom had a wonderful solution. I'm sure He became tired of their griping--- Anyway, the Lord said He would give them water and in gratitude, they began to sing. (The cross reference in my Bible is Ps. 105:2 and 106:12) They believed His words and began to sing and talk of His wondrous deeds.

I have been praying that the Lord would sprinkle his salt on our tongues. Why? To make us really thirsty for Him. That we would more fervently hunger and thirst after righteousness and become so thirsty--- To begin to dig deeply into Gods Word and watch that fountain come bubbling up. Dig a well and sing into it. Believe Him great things. In verse 18, it speaks of the princes who have dug the well — not a well, THE WELL--- by the direction of the Lawgiver.* I think of the royalty in Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Austria in centuries past, and how they called for that well to be "digged" and sung into. Bach, Haydn, Handel and others who desired to be used by the Lord took the opportunity to make themselves available for the Master. They knew about this well. God's anointing "welled - up within them as they plunged their staves deep into the presence and glory of God. Commissioned to write, Bach, for example began his music--- for the glory of God and directed by the Lawgiver. Bach knew about the well - and by his obedience, the results are obvious and far reaching. Proverbs - No good thing will be withheld from them who walk upright.

*(In the above reference the word Lawgiver means Lord of Hosts Is 33:22) And now the same Lord calls to us with a "touch from heaven in 97." He calls us to dig the well also as they did---with our staves.

The lord is calling us to dig deeply into **His Word** and sing into that well with hearts full of anticipation (Ps 40:1 - 3) and knowing that God is truly going to do a great work in these latter days (Is. 42: 9 - 12).

Isaiah 42: 9 - 13, says it this way---Behold the Lord is doing a new thing — former things— the way they have been done, have come to pass and he is telling us before they what? Spring forth--out of the wells of salvation.

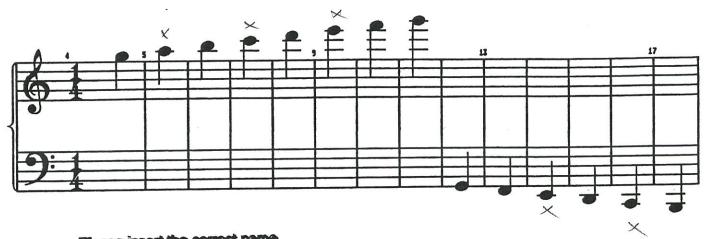
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And what is the result? Sing unto the Lord a new song, praise Him from the ends of the earth and speak names and places world wide* Pray over this scripture and trust Him to bring it to pass. The Lord says He will go forth as a mighty man - a man of war and what? PREVAIL against His enemies.

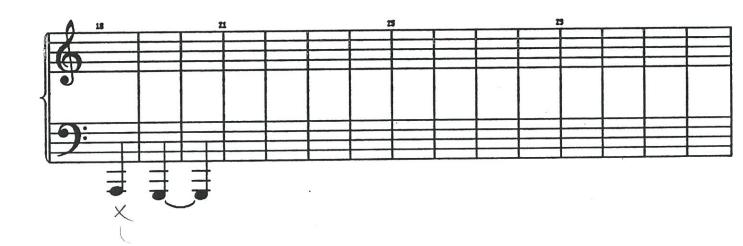
What an exciting time to live. The Lord could have had us be born at any other time but He chose now. In the countdown years. We get to go in and possess the land. One of our territories is music land. In Deut. 11:11 it says this; But the land Ye go to possess, a land of hills and valleys and drinketh of the waters of heaven. Thirsty? Come and drink from the hills and valleys of God's Word. Dig down deeply into the well that never runs dry and sing into it. The Lord is waiting. You can make a difference in His Kingdom.

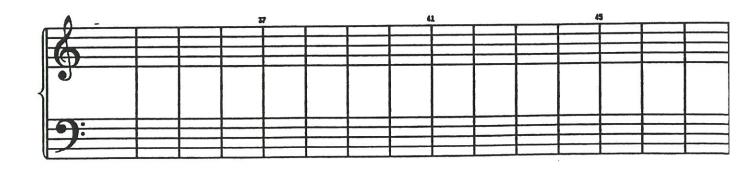


Ledger Notes



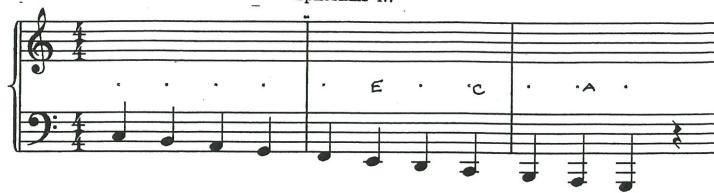


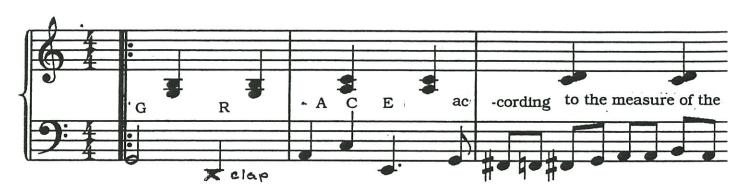




G. R. A. C. E.

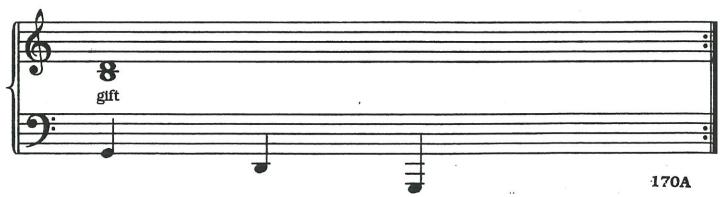
Ephesians 4:7



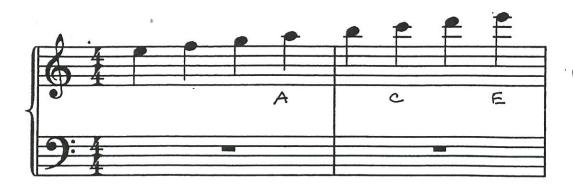


Please write the correct name under the correct notes.



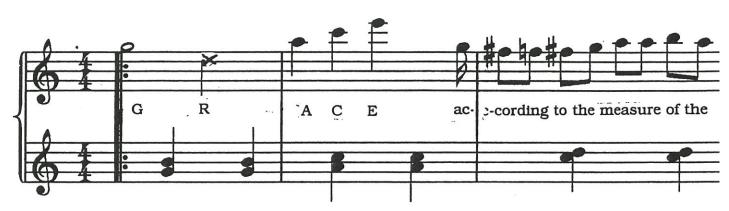


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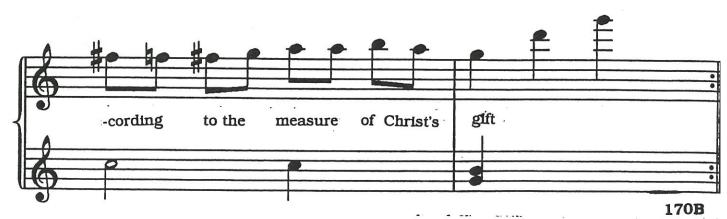
G.R.A.C.E.

Ephesians 4:7



Please write the correct name under the correct notes.

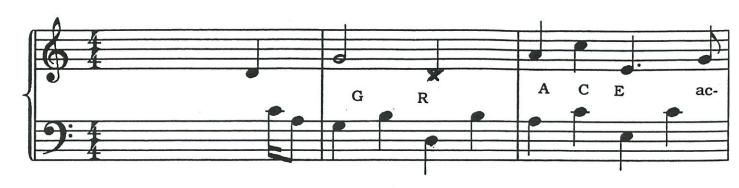




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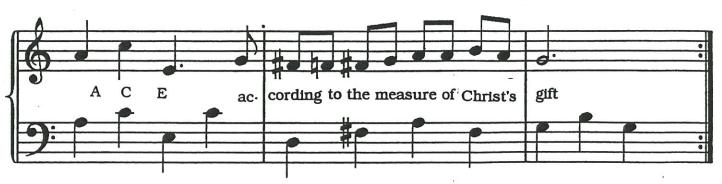
G.R.A.C.E.

Ephesians 4:7



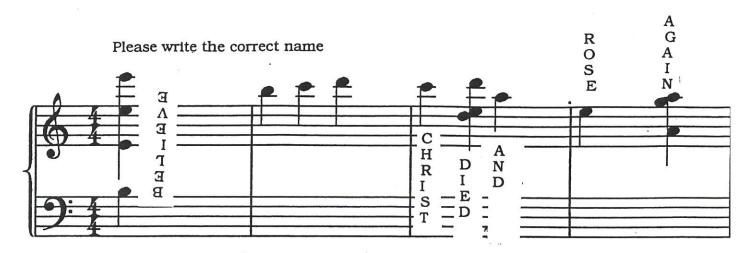
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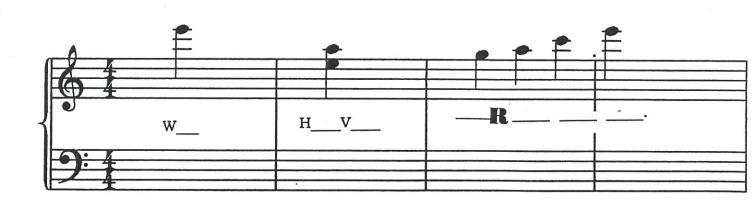


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Everlasting Life is only Through Jesus Christ!

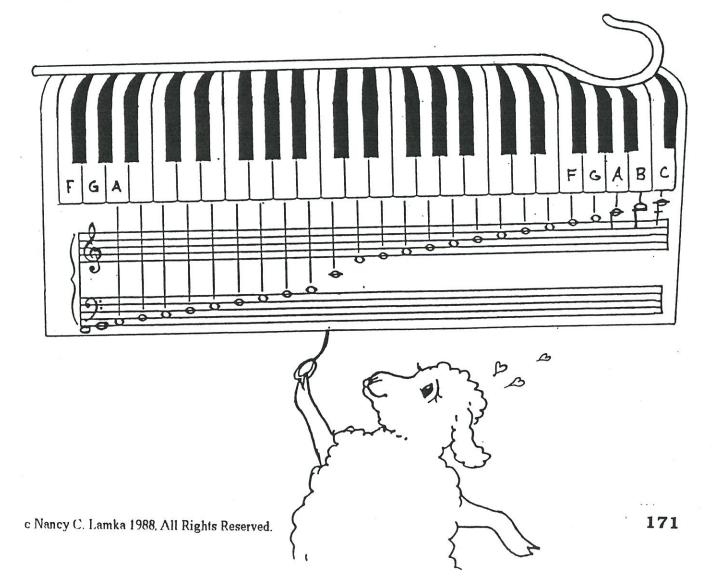


BELIEVE CHRIST DIED



Reviewing Lines and Spaces

What do you notice about the relationship of the black and white keys? Take C, for example. C is always before the set of two black keys. Now find another C, and another, until you find all of the C's on the keyboard. Then take F. Notice the postion. F is always before the set of three black keys. Do the same with A, B, etc. Remember that the musical alphabet begins with A and only continues to G before it starts over with A. You will find four songs to teach the lines and spaces. Each song is a different scripture. Extra Grace Builds Determined Faith teaches the treble clef lines, and Faith Always Conquers Everything teaches treble clef spaces. God's Blessings Don't Fail Anytime teaches bass clef lines, while Accept Christ's Eternal Gift teaches bass clef spaces.



Extra Grace Builds Determined Faith







The songs for the lines and spaces came after I prayed and asked the Lord if the music course was really of Him.
Thank God for His faithfulness.

iohn 1:16 (Amplified) Extra Gifts

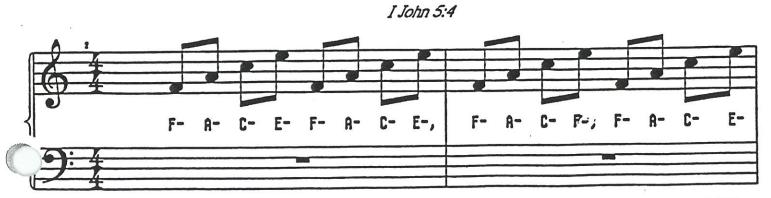
Romans 5:2-5 (Amplified)
Extra Grace

Alternate pattern



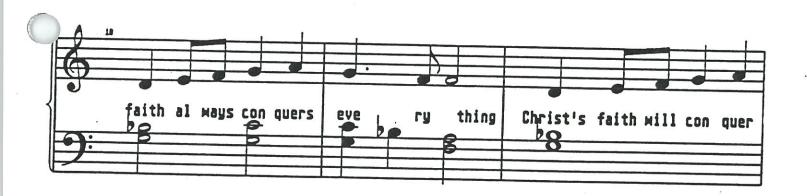
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Faith Always Conquers Everything











God's Blessings Don't Fail Anytime





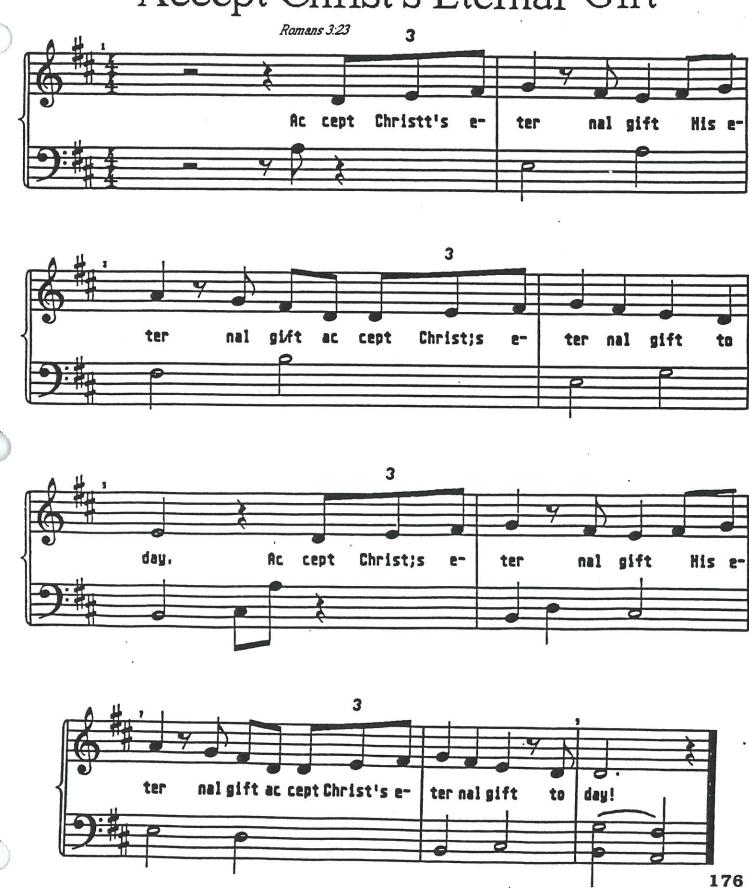




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Accept Christ's Eternal Gift

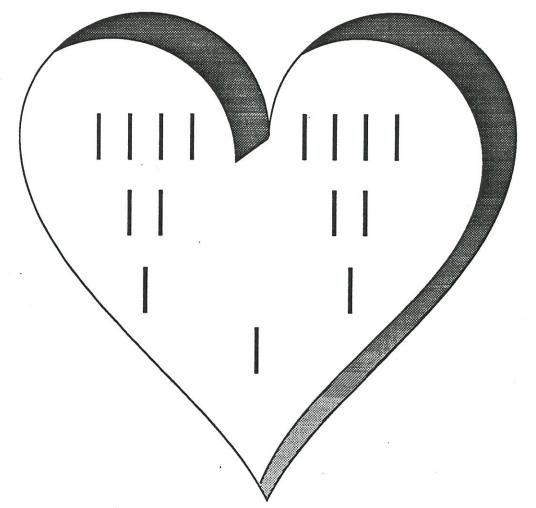


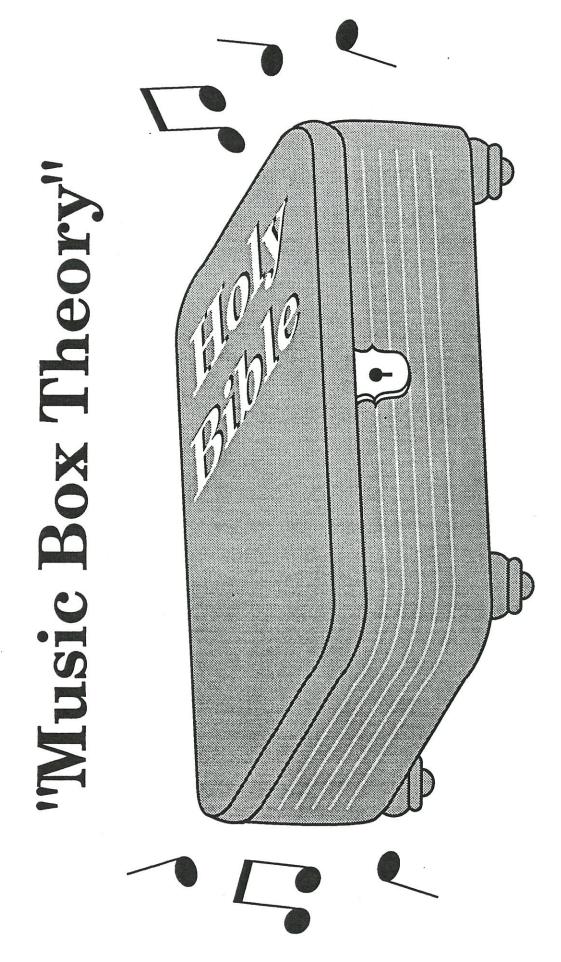
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"Thy words were found and I did eat them, and they were the joy and rejoicing of my heart—
for I am called by thy name

Lord of Hosts."

—Jer. 15:16



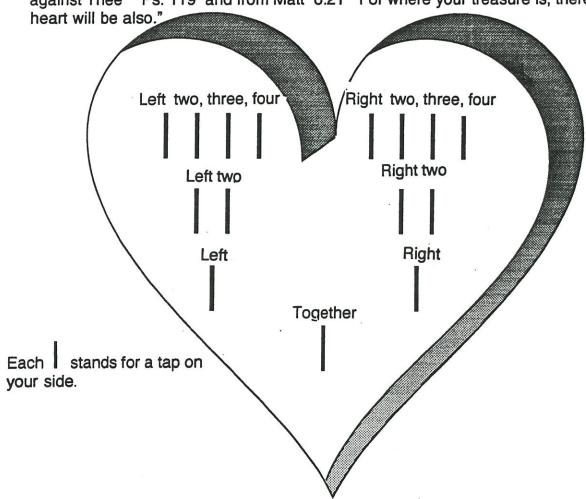


Issues of the Heart in Music Box Theory Proverbs 4: 23

The following several pages reflect ideas I've used in education for over thirty years. Our own family have enjoyed them greatly also. They can be used as signals for changing from one subject to the next.

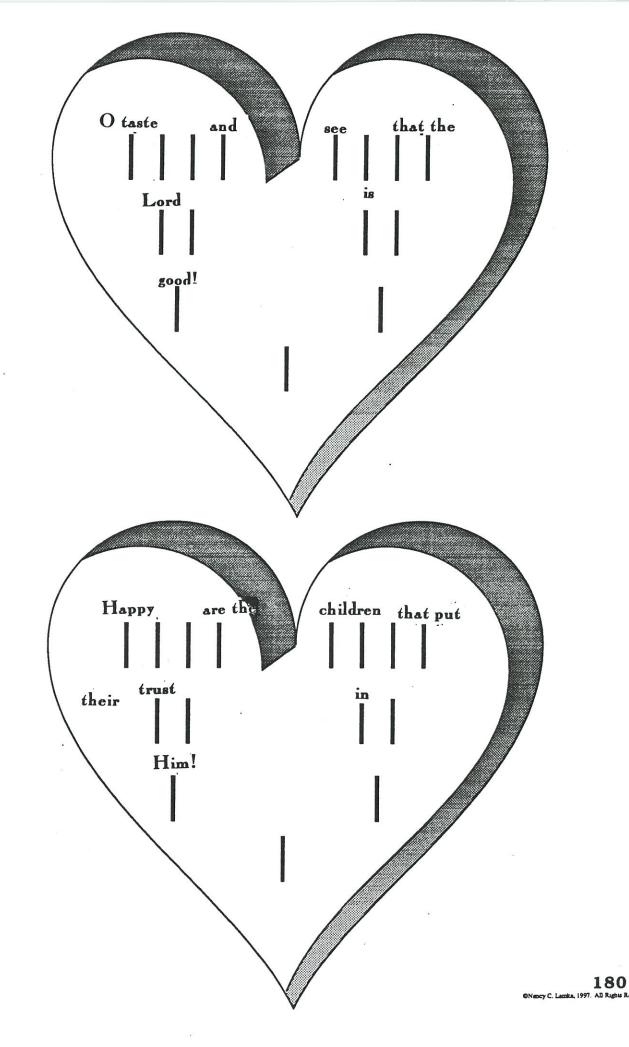
The patterns in the syllabus, proceed as follows:

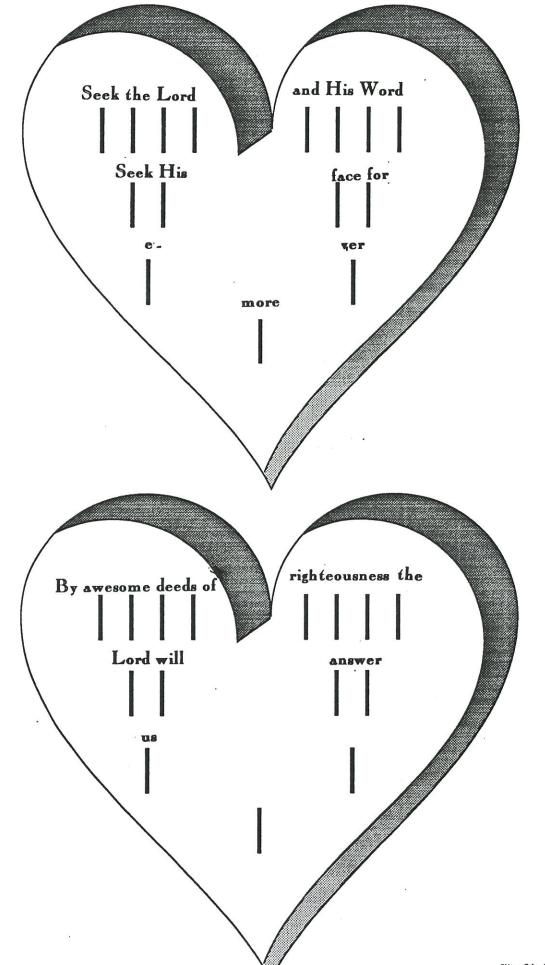
Have a family member go to the front of the room. The hands are held loosely at the sides. Ready, begin hit the left side of the body gently four times, then the right side four times, left two, right two, left, right, together. As you can see on the pattern below it forms a heart/ "Thy Word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee" Ps. 119 and from Matt 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your

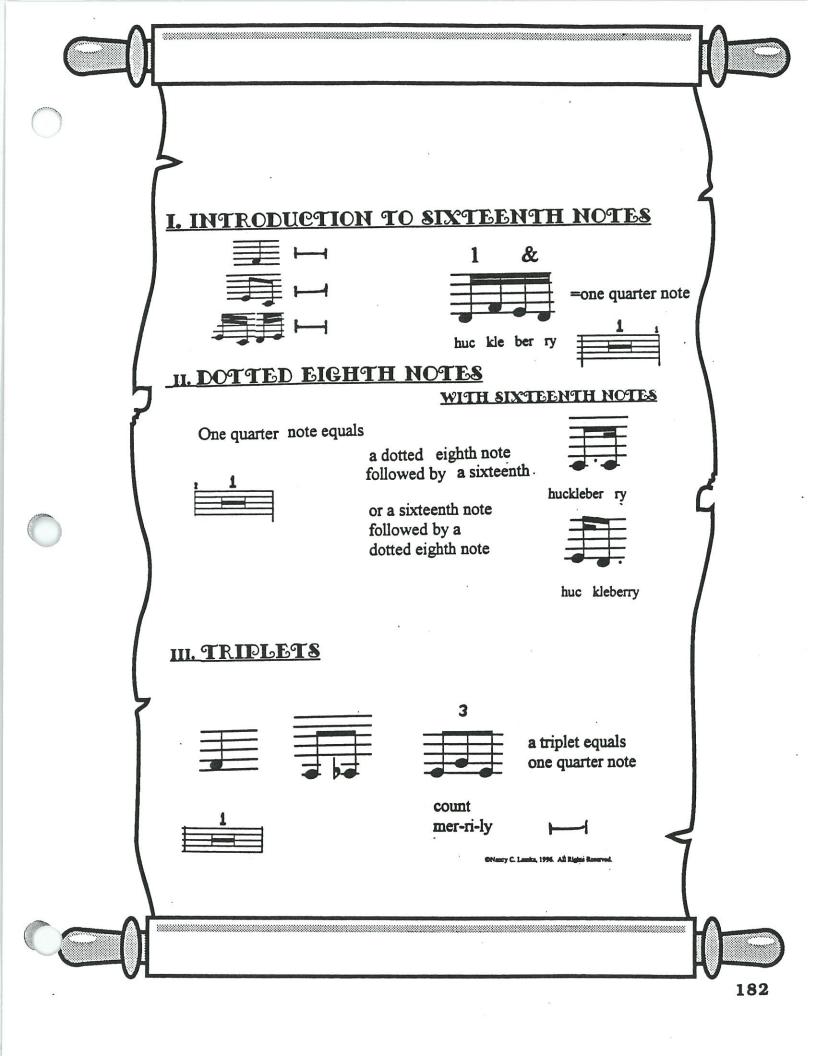


We have expanded this idea in a multi-sensory activity book called "Shine as Lights", c 1988 written for fellow parents and teachers

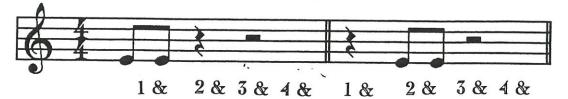
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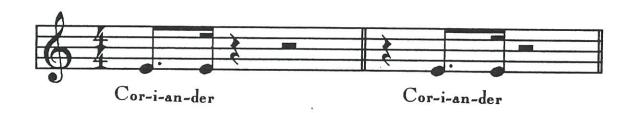




Music Box Theory

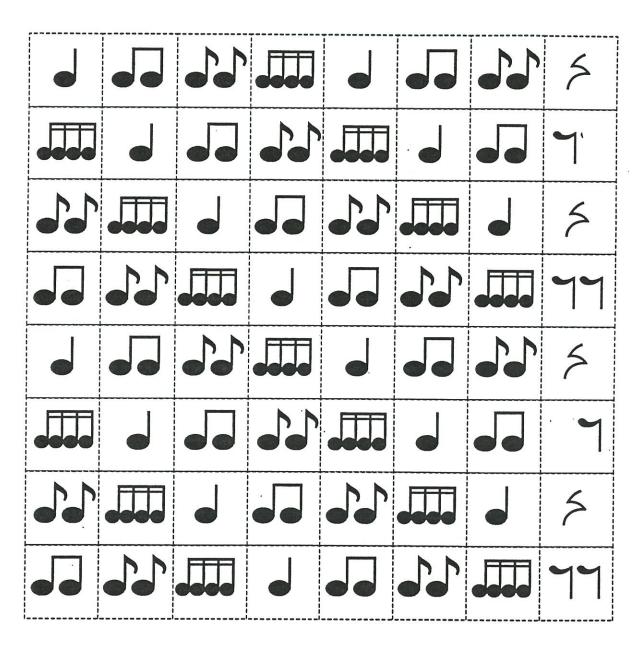








Music Box Theory



Game: Cut the boxes apart and place them in four zip-lock bags. Then, place them on the floor to fourm eight measures and practice clapping the rhythms. Use different combinations and be creative. In 4/4 time, there would be four beats to a measure; and in 3/4 time, there are three beats. How many beats would there be in 2/4 time? Use quarter notes and eighth notes until you're comfortable, and then add the 16th notes.

STAND FAST IN THE LORD!

"Music Box Theory"

	Musical Term	Where is it found?	Vocal Instrumental Instruction
1.	Alamoth	1 st Chronicles 15:20	Higher voices range soprano
2.	(Hallelujah)	Psalms 110, 111,112,	
2.	(Tanciajan)	113,115,116,117	1 age 20 11 D W
3.	Al - taschith		Time of a de on maladada
٥.	Ai - tascinui	Psalms 57,58,59&75	Type of ode or melody to
4.	Higgaion	Psalms 92:3	be sung
5.	Mahalath	Psalms 53 and 88	Murmuring of the harp-Plantive
6.	Maschil		Meaning unsure
0.	IVIASCIIII	Psalms 32, 42, 44, 45	,
7	Michton	52,53,54,55,7479,88	to be sung with unders
7.	Michtam	Psalms 16,56,57,58, 59, 60	with Golden Ewald - plantive
8.	Muth -Labben	Psalm 9	Some interpt it higher voices
			Others from root say funeral
			ode
9.	Neginah and	Psalms 4, 54,	Perhaps it means songs
	Neginoth	55,61,67,and	accompained by stringed
		Habikah3:19	Instruments
10.	Nehiloth	Psalms 5	It could mean sung
		Ē.	accompanied by stringed
			instruments.
11.	Selah (one of	Psalms frequently	Meditative-unknown-listening
	my favorite terms)		to what we have just read in
			God's word in chewing on it an
			listening to the song he places
	ži.		on our hearts.
12.	Sheminith	Romans 5, 12	Translated "eighth order" Key
			to rhythm? Pitch? Octaves?
			Tetracho aferti baso ?
13.	Shiggaion	Psalms 7	Total and the basis .
	(Pl. Shigionoth)		
14.	Shoshannim and	Psalms 45, 60,	Kimchi, Tremellius, Eichhorn
	Shushan-eduth	69, 80	translate it "hexachorda"
	onuonan-vaum	The second of the second second	•
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Creative Worship



The word "SINGING" is used 108 times in the Old Testament. Ninety-three times it is used just as we would think of it today and once as a title.

It is descriptive of:

birds

Ps. 104:12

trees

IChr. 16:33

morning stars

Job 38:7

occasions of or times of:

victory

Ex. 15:1,21

revelry

Ex. 32:18

manner of, with:

thanksgiving

Ps. 147:7

joy

Ps. 27:6

gladness

Jer. 31:7

objects of God's:

power

Ps. 51:16

mercies

Ps. 89:1

righteousness Ps. 51:14





The word "SONG" is used in the Old Testament 62 times. Forty-eight times it is used just as a song as we use it today or as a title in the Psalms.

It is also used as:

a witness Deut. 31:19-22 torment Ps. 137:3 a march Num. 21:17,18 a processional IChr. 17:7-8

and expressive of:

triumph Jud. 5:12 physical joy Gen. 31:27 spritiual joy Ps. 119:54 deliverance Ps 32:7 hypocrisy Amos 5:23 derision Ps. 69:12

figurative of:

passover ls. 30:29 Messiah's advent ls. 42:10 Gospel age ls. 26:1-2







Many people say, "If I could only write songs like that person!" Good Tens! You can Pralm 40:3 says," and The (The Lard) has put a new sang in my mouth, even praise unto our God ere does the sang come from?, The Lard. Where did He put the sang? In your mouth. The Lard is no respector of persons. what He will do for one, He will do for another I have been a "Song Receiver" for many years, but I wasn't always. I had a desire sparked by knowing Plancy Lamka, my dear friend and fellow "Song Receiver". It took waiting on the Lard, being in Kis Ward, listening, then being obedient to write it dawn. Sametimes the sangs would came in the middle of the night and it took abedience to get up and write it down Psalm 42:8 says," In the night Kis sang shall be with me".... Why sametimes at night? Because we are quiet enough to hear My 10 year old grandson askedme, "Gramma, could I be a "Song Receiver" too?" I told him, "Yes you can! Just ask the Lard and listen." He began to wait before the Lard listening. He has received several sange! So be in the Word, listening, and Mancy can teach you to write them down Lair in Jesus Mary Stacker Everyone seems to have the right opinion about good music, but just try to find two people with identical opinions. Into this mix of ideas, I offer my opinions and assorted observations, hoping that they stimulate your curiosity and enlarge your ability to enjoy music.

Music preferences continually shift and turn.

Can you imagine being eternally confined to the songs and sounds you enjoyed as a three-year old, never being allowed to put a new twist to an old melody, to add a new harmony or vary a tempo? One of my favorite childhood songs was What Child Is This? (also known as Greensleaves), so I taught myself to play it on the piano and violin. It took hundreds of random tries to find then remember the melody, but once I figured it out I played it and played it and just kept playing it, each time with seemingly endless variations of melodic errors. Everyone who heard it was very glad when my interests turned to other things unrelated to music.

I have a theory that (at least on this side of Heaven) our over-exposure to any song will eventually kill it. Some music is so saturated with boredom that it's dead even before it reaches our ears. But my favorite music isn't like that. When I find one I think I could enjoy eternally, and I try to. Inevitably, though, boredom sneaks in, imperceptibly at first. Denial doesn't work for long—I have to change the music itself or move on to find a new favorite.

We all have our favorites, whether they are echoes from earlier days with their rush of friendly faces and familiar delights, or recent discoveries that thrill us with promise of undiminishable brilliance. Nonetheless, I try to remember that, until I get to Heaven, even my all-time favorites will fade. I suggest not being overly dogmatic about my favorite (over least-favorite) songs and being patient with other people's musical interests.

Music, a matter of private preference, can give you common ground with other people.

"Stop singing," my son whispered. He was a toddler and had always loved having me hold him as I, with the congregation, sang and worshiped the Lord. His new plea surprised me and disappointed me. How could he not love my voice and my kind of music? Eventually I discovered what he didn't like: I occasionally dropped an octave and harmonized with everyone else—he didn't like the way everything shook when I sang so low.

For every person who likes a particular song or style of music, you'll probably be able to find twenty who don't like it. So do yourself a favor and allow yourself to have your own opinion about what you like and don't like. Looking for music that will place have of people has value, but don't lose yourself in your search. Be honest.

Music is a conversation between sounds and silence.

The world is full of rich, exotic sounds, not all of it is normally thought of as music. I love hearing the wind whistle through pine needles and water crashing and splashing against itself and its many barriers. These sounds have power to evoke emotions, not all of them are as pleasant. The rhythmic pounding of a violent gale, the shrieking and waling of thunder, the shaking of an earthquake evoke quite different emotions.

Have you ever heard the morning stars singing (Job 38:7)? What kind of sound do crying rocks make (Luke 19:40)? How do the stones in walls converse with the beams amongst the timbers (Habakkuk 2:11)? There are vast worlds of sounds and harmonies and rhythms that we know nothing of. Even in the realms of human harmonies, we know so very little. Experiment. Learn to enjoy and explore the world of sounds of other cultures.

Music expresses emotions and ideas.

Music can be as passionate or boring as our emotions. The Bible includes songs that explore the whole range of human emotions (except, perhaps, boredom, and assuming that the Bible's poetry was at some point set to music). Music is not only a great, God-given expression of thoughts and emotional expression, it is also a great outlet for words, ideas, and emotions that are difficult to express in other forms. Consider the vastly different forms of music that would be needed to more fully express these words and emotions:

- * the physical anguish of Psalm 22
- * the ecstacy of Exodus 15 or Psalm 96 and 98
- * the angst and pathos of Psalm 137
- the lovers' opera of Song of Solomon
- * the jump-up-and-down, I-can't-stop-smiling, my-muscles-ache joy that come from being released from sin's despair and being assured of Christ's over-abundant help.

Each emotion has its own value, its own purpose and place in life. Each can be twisted to frustrate or deceive people, or can be redeemed to fulfill and bless people. Each musical form—from complex African drums, to jubilant, tickling jazz, to the bold, epochal grand opera, to foot-stomping bluegrass, to thunderous pipe organs—has a useful and redeemable place in musical expression, a way of saying things precisely that can't be stated as well another way. Consider Bach's calming allegory of the Lord's protective care in Sheep May Safely Graze, Rimsky-Korsakov's whimsical description of The Flight of the Bumblebee, the rich harmonies of Stravinsky's Symphony of the Psalms, or the intensely introverted anxieties described in Anton Webern's atonal and pantonal orchestral pieces.

Music tends to reflect our philosophical views of life.

Eventually, I believe, our choices of music will betray our personalities and our perspectives of life, be it our hopes, our despair, our anger, our sense of humor, our superficiality, our silliness, or our confusion. People, like music, have many moods and, therefore, many musical forms.

For centuries, western (that is western civilization, not country western) music was built on a strong tonal system: scales were well-defined and firmly founded on a single, obvious tonal center. Music was a journey that wandered back and forth from that "home" note, being increasingly restless as it resisted or distanced itself from home, and being increasingly rested as it harmonized with and returned to its tonal home base.

That corresponded with the general theological or at least philosophical common ground. We share a core value system. Theologically, we rested as we harmonized with the will of our Heavenly Father; we became restless and discontent as we wandered from our spiritual home.

- Eighteenth-century rationalists worshiped the balance and symmetry of reason, exalting
 their rules of science above all else. Not surprisingly, the musicians of that era (Mozart,
 Haydn, for example) wrote music that was highly structured, tightly systematic, and
 carefully balanced.
- Nineteenth-century romantics (authors, philosophers, and artists) worshiped the passion of
 the human spirit above the confining rules of rationalism and science. Their musicians
 (Beethoven, Brahms, Wagner, for example) wrote music that deliberately violated their
 forefathers symmetrical rules; that music dripped with pathos, that explored loosely
 structured extremes of unlivable ideals and unsustainable emotions.
- * Twentieth-century, esoteric philosophers tried to severe their ties to traditional values and absolute truths. Their euphoric search for freedom from rules became a populous slide to

civic and moral confusion. Life became a contradiction: denying absolute truth while trying to force their narrow perception of truth on others; hence, the music of Schoenberg, Cage, and Stockhousen.

Music—its melodies, rhythms, harmonies, structural patterns, tempos, timbre, and dynamics—are amoral. It has no capacity to be moral or immoral, though with silly superstitions and fallacious logic, some people have tried to assign both moral and immoral

qualities to each of these.

Setting words to music, of course, adds an intellectual dimension that can be used to either ambush or strengthen morality. Without words, music has only indirect, emotional, mood-altering effects upon morals, therefore, the moral danger arises from manipulating emotions to incite moral or immoral deeds . . . an interesting ethical issue. Music can also be an act of rebellion. Throughout history, musical innovations have tended to excite controversy, and just as predictably, the new brash music becomes the old musical cliches. Nonetheless, mild or malicious, much of the world's greatest music has been created by breaking out of old forms, searching for new fresh means of expression, rebelling against the mundane and mediocre. Consider these aspects of music as acts of rebellion:

Bored piano students composing their own songs

 David, the young Hebrew shepherd-musician, using his music to subdue his king's demonic rages.

Paul and Silas, tortured and imprisoned, boldly singing and joyfully worshiping the Lord,

defying their excruciatingly painful wounds and circumstances.

 Enraged reformers and impassioned evangelists (such as Martin Luther, Isaac Watts, and Charles Wesley) composing hymns that jolted nations from spiritual apathy and anarchy.

 English and American pop-rock stars of the 1960s exposing superficial lifestyles, replacing them with their own superficiality and leading their nations back to the brink of spiritual, social, and civic chaos.

Music tends to reflect character.

Here are seven questions that can help you evaluate your music from a biblical perspective:

1. Do I permit people to explore and enjoy their favorite forms of music (Romans 14:5)?

2. What does God think of my music? The whole world is open to explore, enjoy, and subdue, but remember that we will individually stand before the Judge of all flesh to give a full account of our lives (Romans 14:7-19).

3. How will my convictions about music affect my testimony with people who don't know the Lord and my relationship with my spiritual family (1 Corinthians 10:24)?

4. How healthy are the words being sung (Ephesians 4:1-32)?

5. Am I dependent on my music; for example, do I depend on it to keep me in a good mood (1 Corinthians 6:12)?

6. Does it help me become more like Christ or less like Christ (1 Corinthians 10:23)?

7. What effect does my music have on my thinking or emotions (Philippians 4:8)?

THE HEART OF A WORSHIPPER

by Carolyn Walker

In the Old Testament, if a priest wanted to enter into the Holy of Holies, the place where God dwelled, he would have to follow a number of rules to purify himself enough just to be able to stand for a short time in the presence of God. Just as the priests were required to prepare themselves to enter the Holy Place, we must prepare our hearts for worship if we want to step into the throne-room of God. How do we do this? Well, first we have to know what the heart of a true worshipper of God is.

The number one priority of a worshipping heart is to get closer to God. In Mark 5 we can read a story of a woman whose only focus was to reach Jesus. Jesus had just crossed over the lake in a boat when a man named Jairus ran up to Jesus and fell at His feet, begging that He would come and heal his daughter who was very ill. As Jesus began to go with Jairus, the crowd followed, pressing so close that the disciples were doing everything they could just to keep their Master from being crushed. In the crowd ahead, a certain woman was trying her best to get close to Jesus, only to get pushed aside by the eager throng. For twelve years this woman had been bleeding. She went to every doctor she could find, but no one could help her. She spent everything she had to find a cure, but no cure could be found. "I must reach Jesus," she thought to herself, "If only I could get to Him, He could heal me!" The crowd began to press closer. Jesus was getting near, almost ready to pass by. Growing more and more frantic as people jostled her away from the Rabbi, she pushed and shoved with all her might to get closer. He was getting away! If only she could but touch the hem of His robe, surely that would be enough! Gathering every ounce of her quickly waning strength, the woman desperately threw herself into the crowd, her hand just brushing the edge of Jesus' cloak. As people stumbled over her, she knew that she had been healed.

Like this woman, our heart's first desire must be to touch Jesus, to come so close to Him that all of our hurts could be healed. Are we willing to do anything it takes to get closer to God? Do our hearts long to touch the Master enough that we would desperately throw ourselves at the feet of Jesus, with the risk of being trampled, just to touch the hem of His garment? The heart of a worshipper is desperate to draw near to God.

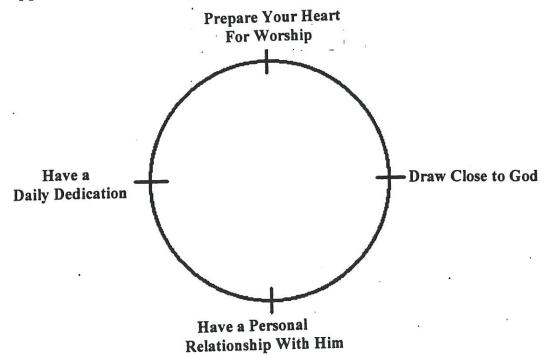
Yet, how do we draw near to God? When our hearts begin to long for more of Christ's loving touch, we also begin to yearn for a closer, personal relationship with Him. This is not only something our spirits desire, but it is something that God wants, too. Not only do we want to draw near to Him, but He also wants to draw near to us, so that we can know Him better. I myself have experienced His awesome love as I drew close to Him and He met me.

The evening's coolness seemed to mirror the condition of the world surrounding me; it was neither cold nor warm, feeling or unfeeling. I didn't belong, yet I wasn't excluded. In spite of my many friends, I was lonely. Although I could empathize with almost everyone I came into contact with, it seemed that no one really understood me. I searched among my friends for someone who could comprehend, and though a couple came close, there was no one that could relate to me in the completeness that I desired. Then, it was on that evening, the Sunday before I was to leave to attend Bible college, that God showed Himself to me in such a way that my search for belonging was brought to an end.

However, as with any other close friendship, this personal relationship with Christ requires commitment. Not just a weekly commitment, like attending church every Sunday. Not even a "daily-devotions" commitment. This commitment is a daily, hourly, minutely dedication to Jesus Christ. What does a daily dedication involve? Simply determining to take a stand for Christ every day (not just on Sundays and

Wednesdays) in everyday situations.

Jesus said to take up your cross daily and follow Him. It is a daily sacrifice we are to make. Daily we are to come before Him, willing to let our hearts be broken and the things which are not of God spill out so that He can fill and satisfy us with His everlasting life and love. Then we are so purified by His grace that we can enter into the Holy of Holies, not one day, but every day. We make Him our closest Friend and determine to maintain that divine Friendship on a daily basis. We are to be in constant communion with God. This is the heart of God. This is the heart of a worshipper. This is how we prepare for worship.



Resource Page

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STAND FAST IN THE LORD!

"Behold, I desire to pour out upon my people blessings, to rain upon them a new vision of joy!

Lift up your banner, church, for the Lord God will sweeten the bitter waters and purify the brackish waters—and the flood thereof the world will not be able to contain. As the flood of physical water drowned all those who would not repent, there is coming a flood of my Spirit in worship and praise, to set things in order for what is to come.

The voice of song in worship and praise will drown the polluted water of the world---many will drink of this water and be saved, refreshed, and restored.

Listen to the voice of my Spirit, for I will pour out blessings upon my people---many songs and joyful music to Me your Maker.

Therefore, prepare your hearts and sanctify yourselves, for the day of the visitation of the Lord is at hand."

Friday, September 13, 1996 as given to Nancy Lamka during her devotions.

Isaiah 44:3 " For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground.