



# ALTRMOTIVE

Music is and has always been the universal language. Even in its rawest form it embodies human emotion, exploration, and self-expression. Whether it be as intricate as the tonal flood of a full symphonic orchestra, or as simple as the syncopated tapping of a single street drummer, music is the pouring out of the soul. It is no wonder that music plays such an important role in our lives. A single song can, in a matter of minutes empower the spirit, break the heart, challenge the mind, and even bring us closer to God. Because it comes from deep within our soul, music can REACH deep within our soul. Therein lies it's power. In a spiritual sense, music can bring a person face to face with God, even if that person may not even know Him. A lyric, a phrase, even a simple melody can cause a person to see the Father in a totally different light.

A recent study was done in which it states that a large percentage of Christians today derive their personal doctrine from lyrics in songs more often than from teaching or even reading the Bible. I have known people who have given up their walks with God because of what a certain artist said in their music. It is a powerful tool that must be used wisely. Music can either be a powerful ally, or a fierce opponent. A song full of life and hope can inspire life and hope in those who hear it. A song about the selfless love of Jesus can bring even the most hard-hearted people to the foot of the cross. A song dealing with a personal experience can reach people dealing with the same experience in a way that perhaps nothing else could. A song FROM the heart will reach straight TO the heart.

God, in his brilliant planning, created a way for Him to connect directly with us. I have seen people get freed from addiction, depression and even sickness as they sang to the Lord. Remember the story of Paul and Silas in prison? Their physical chains were broken off as they sang praises to the Lord. Not only were they set free, but all the prisoners around them were set free. There is something extremely powerful that occurs when we lift our voices to worship God. The Bible says that "*He inhabits the praises of His people*" [paraphrased from Psalms 22:3]. A more literal translation would be, "*He enthrones Himself upon the praises of His people*". As we lift Him up, He lifts us up.



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