



Revolution: Traction | November 20, 2019

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

We all have our favorite guilty pleasure songs. And we also have our favorite private places to sing those songs at the top of our lungs. If you're wondering how this has anything to do with our faith, read below.

Key Verses

2 Samuel 22:1-4 (NIV)

"David sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said: 'The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation. He is my stronghold, my refuge and my savior—from violent people you save me. 'I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and have been saved from my enemies.'"

Discussion

We all have at least one guilty pleasure song. In addition, most of us have a favorite private place to sing that song at the top of our lungs – maybe in the car or shower – where no one can hear us. Sometimes, we start singing the song in public thinking we are in our own little world, when we get caught and all of the sudden get really embarrassed. Similarly, we can often react this way when someone questions us about our faith. They ask if we are a Christian, and all of the sudden we get tongue-tied and embarrassed and don't know how to respond.

1. Do you have a favorite guilty pleasure song, and private place to sing that song?
2. Have you ever experienced this tongue-tied, embarrassed sensation when someone has asked you about your faith?

In Jesus' time, this might have been even more true. The truth is, it was dangerous at that time to be a Christian and to follow Jesus. So people often followed him in secret. But Jesus didn't come to Earth to attract secret followers. He came to start a revolution. And in order to do that, he needed people who were willing and able to speak out on behalf of their faith. He needed people that were bold and courageous when it came to declaring the truth about who he was.

3. Why do you think it was dangerous at that time to be a follower of Jesus? Would you say that it's dangerous today, in your world context?
4. Why did Jesus' strategy include people who were willing to be bold and outspoken about their faith?

In 2 Samuel 22:1-4, we read David's song of praise to the Lord. In it, he passionately declares all that God has done for him. It's like he is dancing his heart out for God, unconcerned with what he looks like. He will gladly look like a fool, so that people will know what God has done in his life, and could do in theirs. Later, Jesus comes along and shows us how to live this out. It's not meant to be done in private, it's meant to be done in front of others, so that people might come to know him because of the way we cry out in praise.

5. Would you gladly look like a fool so that others might know Jesus? If so, what are some ways you've lived this way? If not, what is keeping you from doing so?
6. Have you ever watched someone come to know Christ because of the bold behavior of someone else in their life? Why do you think this is so important in our own lives as Christians?

What's Next?

The Bible says that as Christians, we are called to be a "city on a hill" – bright and obvious displays of God's love and affection for us. God wants us to sing and dance our hearts out for him, the same way we do so in private with our favorite songs. When we do this, we become like magnets for God's kingdom. We build traction because we are authentic, living displays of his love.

This week, as you live out and engage your faith, consider how you could live your faith out like you sing and dance your heart out. Think about how you are portraying the gospel, so that people around you would want what you have. Take a look at your life and figure out one way you can "roll the windows down" to better share your faith with the world.