

## Moses' Song Ministries, Inc.

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"THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND SONG; AND HE IS BECOME MY SALVATION." EXODUS 15:2

## SUMMER NEWS 2003

### A WORD TO A FRIEND

Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary defines the word "friend" as follows: *"One who is attached to another by affection; one who entertains for another sentiments of esteem, respect and affection which lead him to desire his company, and to seek to promote his happiness and prosperity."*

The definition of "servant" reads: *"A person, male or female, that attends another for the purpose of performing menial offices for him, or who is employed by another for such offices or for other labor, and is subject to his command. The word is correlative to master. Servant differs from slave, as the servant's subjection to a master is voluntary, the slave's is not. Every slave is a servant, but every servant is not a slave."*

Recently I was in the midst of a situation that needed attention and resolution. I found myself spending much time trying to come up with answers in my own strength. Needless to say as time went on, I found myself becoming more frustrated with each passing moment. I heard the Lord calling me to cast my cares upon Him, yet I continued to rehearse the problem over and over in my mind. For some time now the Lord has been calling me to stop what I am doing each day at noon, to spend time in prayer and meditation. On this particular day, He gently reminded me that it was almost noon and that this would be an especially good day to make sure that I did not miss my appointment with Him.

After prayer, I opened my Bible to John 15:14 where Jesus says, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." I considered this statement for a few minutes and realized what a privilege it is to be called a friend of Jesus. He then said "Henceforth I call you not servants, for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you...that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in My name, He may give it you.

After reading these words my burden was lifted. I have often read these verses before, but on this day it was what I needed. It reminded me that I had lost my connection with my Friend—my Friend who has loved me so much that He no longer calls me servant. He has affection for me! He desires my company and seeks to promote my happiness and prosperity. I need not struggle alone with this problem. It makes Him happy when I turn to Him with an open and willing heart.

If I am to bring forth fruit that should remain and give glory to God, I need to be drawing my strength from the "Vine." Then as I approach the Father for help with the current problems of the day, I can rest assured that He will hear and help me.

As I consider the word "servant" in the context of Christianity, I am clear that it is a privilege to be His servant but what is thrilling to me is that my Master wants also to be my friend. He wants to take me to another level of understanding that the "world" cannot know; to depths of intimacy that I cannot at this time fully comprehend, but which I will experience as I draw closer to Him in faith.

I am reminded of Abraham's relationship with God. He was called the "friend of God." A high honor--and here is

Jesus reaching out His hand to me and extending to me the same opportunity!

Friends, we need not make it difficult. As we go through each day let us choose to remember that the Creator of the universe, the great "I AM," desires to be our Friend. We need not carry the burdens of life alone.

When I was a boy, my mother would often tell me to guard my associations, because you will always be labeled and judged by the company you keep. Let us choose to be a part of the group that keeps company with the King; men like Enoch, Abraham and Moses. "And so we walk, talk and work together, my Lord and I." Let us strive not to lose our connection!

Your friend and brother,

*Derrol Sawyer*

## AVAILABLE MATERIALS

**CDs:** (\$15 each)

*HeartSongs* (1992) (Derrol Sawyer-1992)

*Above the Clouds* ( Derrol Sawyer-2002)

*Taste and See* ( Derrol Sawyer-2003)

*Learning to Walk With God* (Derrol Sawyer-2003) By request, this is a collection of 4 songs from each of the above CDs, to focus on learning to walk with God. Dwight Hall compiled these songs to accompany his book by the same title.

*The Path of Life Scripture Songs* ( Derrol and Cindy Sawyer-2002)

*My Favorite Place* (Messengers to Young People-2002)

*Jesus, Shine on Me* (Linda Warren-2002) Linda plays guitar and sings 18 songs on the subject of the plan of restoration, from Paradise Lost to Paradise Found.

## Books:

<i>The Battle for Christian Music</i> by Tim Fisher	\$10.99
<i>Harmony at Home</i> by Tim Fisher	\$14.95
<i>Music in the Balance</i> by Frank Garlock and Kurt Woetzel	\$12.95
<i>Let Those Who Have Ears to Hear</i> by Kimberly Smith	\$10.99
<i>The Christian and Rock Music</i> edited by Samuele Bacchiocchi	\$20.00

**Please add 10% shipping and handling.**

**Idaho residents please add 6% sales tax.**

## TESTIMONIALS

Many people have been using Moses' Song music as gifts and witnessing tools, as well as for their own edification. Here are some comments we have received:

'What an absolutely beautiful and uplifting CD!' 'Your music is such a blessing and encouragement to us and lifts our hearts and minds to heaven. God bless you!'

'I give these (*My Favorite Place*) away when I visit homes with children. One woman told me, "O, that MY children held such sentiments as these!'

'Your music is inspiring and I listen to your CD when I need an added voice of encouragement. We are new to the church and continue to make steady progress in learning about Jesus. The sacrifice that you and your family make is a blessing for us whom are weak in faith and the understanding of God's love. I pray that you continue in your work to bring many more to the loving arms of Jesus.'

'I don't know how to categorize your music. It's sacred, but not like the old hymns, yet it's not like the new music that is prevalent today. It's refreshing and uplifting. We love it! We pray you will continue to bless God's people through your ministry.'

'I loved *Above the Clouds*, but *Taste and See* is really special. I have one in my home and I keep one in my car. My favorite song is *The Sabbath Song*. I listen to it over and over. I am being convicted to keep the seventh-day Sabbath.'

***Glory and praise be to God!***

## **A DECADE LATER....HEARTSONGS**

**A**fter singing at an engagement this summer I was in the process of selling CDs at a table, when a young man walked up to me. He was smiling and seemed to have the peace of Jesus. I asked him if he wanted to buy some CDs. His reply was, "That's not why I came here." He looked steadfastly into my eyes and asked me if I had made a tape about ten years ago. I told him about *HeartSongs*, the tape I made in 1992. He proceeded to tell me his story. "I came from a non-Christian background and was steeped in rock and roll music. After seeking out several different churches I discovered the Seventh-day Adventist message. The Lord convicted me that I needed to make several changes in my life. One of those changes was to put away rock and roll music."

He told me that someone had given him a copy of *HeartSongs* and that it made a major difference in his life. Playing it over and over again helped him through difficult times. "If you knew how many miles I drove while listening to that CD!"

He is now strong in his faith and shares the gospel with others. This man's testimony was a blessing and encouragement to me. If you would like to hear and share the music of *HeartSongs*, which has been remastered for CD, phone, write or email us. We thank our Lord and Father in heaven, and give Him the praise, from whom comes every good and perfect gift!

## **THE MESSAGE OF THE MUSIC SEMINAR**

**W**ould you like to have the Message of the Music Seminar presented in your church? The seminar titles are:

- Music and its role in Character Building
- Hiding God's Word in Your Heart with Scripture Songs
- Teaching Music Standards and Developing Convictions
- Where Do We Draw the Line?

The seminar also includes a sacred concert. Please pray that the beauty of the Lord will be seen in all that is presented. Contact us for free brochures to present to your church board.

## **MINISTRY NEEDS**

**W**e are amazed at the goodness of God! This ministry is His work, and He is teaching us many lessons about the walk of faith.

In our last newsletter we laid our needs before you, including our need for a vehicle capable of

transporting our family and equipment from place to place. We have been amazed and blessed with how God has provided this ministry with a beautiful Chevrolet Suburban. It is able to transport our entire family, our equipment and luggage nicely and comfortably as we travel from place to place.

To each of you who came to our aid, we give thanks. To those who prayed for us— and we know many are doing that— we give thanks.

We solicit your prayers and support in the remaining necessities, which include a multi-media projector for making our seminar's PowerPoint presentations. This is our most pressing need at this time.

Other needs include a portable public address system, as well as the ongoing expenses of running the ministry. If you believe in what Moses' Song Ministries is doing, please prayerfully consider helping us financially. All gifts are tax-deductible.

Please keep us in your prayers, and may His peace be upon you as you serve Him in your sphere.

## Musical Notes

*Six words* If we had to sum up in six words the criteria for writing and choosing godly music, those six words would be: freedom of creativity within God's limitations.

Many people do not like the idea of limitations. But God has given us limitations in every area of life. They are a hedge of protection for our benefit. Why would we think it bad to have limitations in the area of music? It is helpful! Titus 2:11,12 shows the importance of limiting ourselves: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Both the music and the words to our music should be aiding our spiritual walk, as opposed to the old nature—the carnal or fleshly nature.

A friend of ours shared with us his little boy's comment during special music one day in the worship service. He said, "Daddy, is this good music? It sounds just like the music in the store!" Of course the words were not the same as what he had heard in the store, but the music itself was giving a message. We do not want to mix the common with the sacred, especially in the worship of our Creator and Lord.

God is a lover of the beautiful. He loves diversity—just look at the flowers this summer and you can see this truth. God has an endless variety of good music. But He has given principles to guide us. If we stay within these boundaries we will have music to His honor and glory. And for what other reason do we exist? *Maranatha!*

## FALL SCHEDULE

September 13 Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

September 26, 27 Pendleton, Oregon. Call 541-276-4253 for details.

October 4 Creston, BC. Call 250-428-3384 for details.

October 18 Eureka, Montana. Call 406-882-4891 for details.

October 24, 25 Colton, California.

October 31-November 6 We will join our Brother in Christ Thomas Jackson for his evangelistic series in Portland, Oregon. We will be sharing through music. Call for details (208) 267-6109

November 12-16 Empowered Living Family Camp, Soquel, California.

November 29 Sandpoint, Idaho. Call 263-9438 for details.

December 3-7 Empowered Living Family Camp, High Springs, FL

Updates to our schedule will be posted on our website. Hope we will see you when we are in your area!

## **NEW WEBSITE**

**G**od has blessed us with a website! You may find us at [www.MosesSong.org](http://www.MosesSong.org)

We thank the Lord for sending Paul Williams to us. Paul lives in Montana and does website and graphic design. If you like his work, let him know! His email is paul@lostrock.net.

Please feel free to visit our website and let us know how you like it! You can sample our CDs and order them via email. Please share the website with your friends and loved ones!