

## *When I Fall In Love: Love Songs*

Reconnect – February 20, 2011

**As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. When can I go and stand before him? Day and night I have only tears for food, while my enemies continually taunt me, saying, “Where is this God of yours?”**

**My heart is breaking as I remember how it used to be: I walked among the crowds of worshipers, leading a great procession to the house of God, singing for joy and giving thanks amid the sound of a great celebration!**

**Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again – my Saviour and my God!**

**Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you – even from distant Mount Hermon, the source of the Jordan, from the land of Mount Mizar. I hear the tumult of the raging seas as your waves and surging tides sweep over me.**

**But each day the Lord pours his unfailing love upon me, and through each night I sing his songs, praying to God who gives me life. “O God my rock,” I cry, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I wander around in grief, oppressed by my enemies? Their taunts break my bones. They scoff, “Where is this God of yours?”**

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Psalm 42:1-11, NLT

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**Text: Psalm 42:1-11;**

**Key Thought:** Singing is a way for us to deeply connect with God.



**A powerful song – O Canada**

*[clap first bar of it and see who knows what song it is]*



- Talk about a song that can evoke a powerful range of emotions – from pride in winning a gold medal to anticipation before a big game to sober gratitude on Remembrance Day to grief on the Highway of Heroes

- Music, and especially songs, have all kinds of power to really connect with our emotions
- We love the songs of our youth because of the memories they evoke, the good times that we had – like the 80's – and sometimes we even throw caution to the wind and sing along

### Singing – out of favour?



- But singing – whether happy, or sad, or just wanting to “let it out”, is something that we seem to have lost along the way
- As kids we love to sing, and as parents we love to sing to our kids and hear them pour out their joy so innocently, but then at some point in time we get self-conscious and figure that it's best left to a select few who either CAN sing or THINK they can
- As adults, when we have the opportunity to sing, we freeze up like we're in an American Idol audition – as if everyone is watching and listening – and then many times we either choke up or try to put on a show, both of which are counter-productive – and it's tragic, because we have no idea what we're missing

### Making a connection

- Here's what we don't get: it's not about “out there” as much as “in here” and “up there” – it's about connecting
- Music, and especially singing, creates a powerful connection with God – a conduit that not only allows us to pour out our deepest emotions to God – our joy, our doubt, our grief and sorrow, our love for Him – but that also allows Him to break into and change our hearts – to heal us, to rejoice with us, to be there with us in our joy (**look at the Psalm just read**)
- But in order to have that conduit in our lives, we must get over the obstacle of our pride
- Pride comes into play whether you can sing or not – it's tricky that way – because if you don't have the greatest voice, your pride is what says “Keep quiet and don't make a scene”
- But even if you DO have a good voice or even a GREAT voice, pride is again in the way, because it says “You should make sure everyone else knows what a great singer you are”
- And either way, the connection with God is broken

### Singing to God – *worship* – in my life

- Healing power of singing to God in my life – the passion dimension of a life with God – tears and brokenness as an antidote for our image-driven, nailed-down lives
- Especially singing in the first person, when I'm able to make the song my own and really sing it to God from my heart
- And here's the thing about singing – it's like a muscle – if you have it, you need to use it to keep it – and if you don't, the way to get it is to do it – and if you don't do it, you lose it
- But it is a God-given way that He gives each of us – whether we are more William Hung or Will I Am – to connect with Him

## Key Thought:

### TAKE IT HOME:

**Singing is a way for us  
to deeply connect with God.**

And then I heard every creature in heaven  
and on earth and under the earth and in the sea.

They sang: "Blessing and honour and glory  
and power belong to the one sitting  
on the throne and to the Lamb  
forever and ever."

(Revelation 5:13, NLT)



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### **Prayer**