

Sing, Gal, Sing,

B A R B A R A C O X

Sing, Gal, Sing,



TATE PUBLISHING
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Sing, Gal, Sing II

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First, I would like to give reverence to my heavenly Father; who is my rock, my fortress, my deliver, my strength, and my God, for without him, this would not be possible. "To God be the glory!"

To my children, Sharda Tucker and Jerome Jones Jr. a.k.a. "Jaye;" to my parents, Cozetta and Frank Cox; to my siblings; to my friends; and my church families, I love you all and appreciate the support and contributions you have given to me.

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PREFACE



To all the readers, I pray that you never allow anyone to hinder you from achieving your God-given talents and purpose. For I am convinced that it is essential to tap into the supernatural source of fasting and praying in order to accomplish your ordained purpose. Thus, pray and ask God to direct your path and take each step according to the directions given by the Holy Spirit. Also, study the Word of God to build and strengthen your spiritual walk, talk, and way of thinking.

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. (Matt. 5:13–14)

To all the readers, I pray that you become more aware of the presences of God. And I hope that you are more knowledgeable of your purpose during this time with God in your own secret place.

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A place to embrace the spirit of God
A place to lay before the feet of Christ (be still,
quite, listen, and wait patiently as he will answer)
A place to listens to his still small voice
A place to feel and observe the glory of God
A place to witnesses the manifestation of God's
promises

To all the readers, I pray that you spend time alone studying and meditating on the Word of God. As I am optimistic that you will gain more insight, spending time meditating on God's word. Each chapter in the book *Sing, Gal, Sing II* is based on various seasons of my life, prior to the time of harvest. I feel that as you read, you will experience and understand my journey as I trusted in God during every stage. I am confident that if you follow these patterns of allowing God to order your steps, even in the midst of adversities and calamities, you will not faint. And you will obtain a deeper revelation during fasting, praying, and meditating.

INTRODUCTION



The purpose of this book, *Sing, Gal, Sing II* with subtitle *the Upper Room*, is to convey the message that fasting, praying, and meditating on the Word of God is imperative in one's daily.

Christian journey. The upper room was a place indicated in the Bible that the disciples would go and spend time with Jesus. As I resided in the upper room of the studio home of my producer, I too spent time with Jehovah and waited for the Holy Spirit.

This book conveys my testimony of how I was able to experience the supernatural while living in an unfamiliar land among total strangers. Additionally, I was unaware of the next steps to take as I found myself—along with my children—having limited money, scarce food, no home, and an empty gas tank. And not to mention the dreadful feeling of experiencing displacement and eventually being homeless. Henceforth, I pursued my singing career in this enormous city.

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As one reads this book, they will be amazed of how God revealed his glory through people that I referred to as angels. This book captures the moments that I spent in a secret place while living in this unknown territory and being faced with uncertainty that I would survive such a harrowing ordeal. Yet through it all, I refused to surrender to the enemy but kept my honor, loyalty, and praise to my God. I would persevere and keep on singing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations. (Ps. 89:1, kjv)

I—just as Abraham had—would leave behind my kinsmen and journey to an unknown land. Respectfully, I would say good-bye to my family, friends, a reputable record company (Big Break Records), a television Christian broadcast (Harvestime Network), my spiritual family at Life Changers Outreach Ministries, and my blessed and beautiful home. Although, I was a little reserved at first, I knew this was the will of God. However, I would not forget the memories and years of preparation leading to that moment. When I packed and contemplated on my path that was going to be behind me, I would now create new footprints in the sand of my life. Even at a time of uncertainty, I could still hear the voice of the Lord saying, “It’s time,” as well as my mother, Cozetta Cox, saying, “You

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are not doing this for them, you are doing it for God!” And my father, the late Frank Cox, reciting, “Sing, gal, sing.”

Those words would echo through my mind as it was a constant reminder that I had to keep moving forward. I knew that I had to go and continue allowing God to speak and sing through me. I felt that despite my restraints, God would provide for me. I was his vessel, and my instrument was to be used for his glory as I was bound for a new era. Before my departure from Texas, I prayed, “Lord, enlarge my territory.”

PROLOGUE



Before we go any further into the story, let me elaborate on my past endeavors. It was during the season with Big Break Records in Tyler, Texas, from the year 2008 to 2010 that God allowed me to not only travel out of state to minister in different gospel concerts, but I was also invited to become a television cohost and eventually, ended up having a show of my own. Wow! I never saw that coming. But God used my manager to coax out of me something other than just singing—my very own show!

True Worship was the name of the Christian television show on Harvestime Network in Tyler, Texas, and guess who was the host? Yes, sir, indeed—me! God spoke to me to worship him in spirit and truth and the show *True Worship* would inspire others to do so. These endeavors would be a prerequisite to leading me in radio ministry for many, many years later. God knew the plan that he had for my life! (But, that's another story to be discussed in the next book, *Sing, Gal, Sing III*.) The duration of my two-year record contract with Big Break Records permitted me to soar to a higher

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dimension. And I was grateful for my manager as well as the others who played a vital part during this segment of my journey. However, I would like to think that I left an impact on their lives as well. Prior to me being signed on with Big Break Records, I was able to start my own company, Cox Productions, where my very first CD album was recorded and released, titled "Guardian Angel" in 2001. It was several years later before I would have a record again as I went through many obstacles in my personal life, which resulted in a broken engagement but a beautiful baby boy.

I was like the Samaritan woman at the well in the book of John. Jesus told her to go get her husband. When she replied, "I have no husband," Jesus said, "I know, and the one that is at your home is not your husband." The Samaritan woman, after receiving the living water, would thirst no more. She would not want to sin again with the man who was indeed not her husband. . Jesus saved her despite her sins! The woman did not only leave behind the waterpot, but she also left all her burdens and sins at the well as Jehovah had redeemed her. Now she was able to testify of the good news, since she was no longer bound by sin. She was free; she was jubilant!

Just as the Samaritan woman, God gave me beauty instead of ashes. I had gone through the fire because of my sins, but God was with me and he forgave me (repentance lead to redemption.) "I was redeemed...Let the redeemed of the Lord say so...I was redeemed!" I, too, was jubilant

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for I was given another chance to fulfill my purpose. In the year 2005, two years after the birth of my second child), a new CD album titled “Jubilations: Great Happiness” was released. I was jubilant for many miracles but especially the birth of my children, as I was told by many doctors that there would be a slim chance of me having children due to precancer cells that were removed from my cervix causing scar tissue damage. But God favored me and allowed me to have two beautiful children despite the report of the doctors. You see, I chose to believe the report of the Lord.

Despite the challenges in my personal life, I would hear the voice of God say, “a new season.” He was going to place me in a new season. Therefore, I had to...

Be obedient
Be willing
Be persistent
Be consistent
Be courageous
Be bold
Be diligent
Be victorious

I had to be everything God ordained me to be in order to be successful in my new season. I had to do everything with grace! I had to do it with love as he would promote me! I had to stay humble as he would exalt me in due season. For my faithfulness he would give me:

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A greater anointing
A greater blessing
A greater opportunity
A greater position
Greater favor
Greater prosperity
Greater treasures

God knew the plans that he had for my life. Many people had given up on me due to my mistakes but not God. He forgave me and permitted me to go into a “new season.” He had plans to prosper me and not harm me, plans to give me hope and a future. During this season in my life, I was placed before great men. The Bible says that your gift will make room for you and place you before great men. I was blessed to share the stage with many other artists, appeared on television and radio, and received several awards during this segment of my life. Thanks to God and these experiences, I was on a new journey to fulfill other plans that God ordained for my life as an evangelist, praise dancer, artist, songwriter, poet, and an author. Once more, I was walking in boldness with a divine purpose and an assignment, as God gave me the power to minister his Word as well as sing his Zion songs. All I could say was, “Sing, gal, sing!”

And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of

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the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. And he said, Go, and tell this people. (Is. 6:7–9, kJV)

Who Will Go?

Who will go?
Even when times get hard!
Who will go?
Even when your money is low!
Who will go?
Even when your honey is acting funny!
Who will go?
Even when your friends are few!
Who will go?
Even when your bills are due!
Who will go?
Even when your body aches!
Who will go?
Even if your heart breaks!
Who will go?
Even if you will be persecuted!
Who will go?
Even if you will be despised!
Who will go?

I, Barbara Cox, answered, “I will go, Lord. Send me. I will go. Here I am! Lord, you can trust me. I will go wherever you send me. Wherever you want me to go, I will go. Lord, send me!”

I Will

I will be your servant!
I will be your follower!
I will be your ambassador!
I will be your mouthpiece, who will run and tell all
who is willing to hear and be doers of your word!
I will be your vessel you can pour into until I will
overflow with the living water!
I will be your speaker to go into all the nations and
tell the good news!
I will be your eyes to see the lost and bring them
unto you!
I will be your ears to hear the cry of your people
and show compassion.
I will be your hands to heal the sick!
I will be your mouth to speak of the gospel
I will be your voice to sing Zion's songs unto all
the earth!

And the Lord said to me!

Will you go to the ends of the earth?
Will you go into the dirty slums?
Will you go into the ghettos?
Will you go into the lowest valley?
Will you go and face the highest mountain?
Will you go into the wilderness (where there are
giants)?

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Will you go and approach the pharaohs that hold
my people captive?
Will you go as Paul and Silas into the jail and sing
even during adversity?
Will you go as Abraham into an unknown land
and leave your kin?
Will you go?
Will you go?
Yes, I will go!

So I left Tyler, Texas, with my two children. I dared to shed a tear as I walked out of the beautiful home God allowed me to build—a home that God reversed a foreclosure sale and stopped the enemy in his tracks. Yes, I will go. I dared not show any signs of fear, for I knew that God would take care of us, my children and I.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. (Ps. 27:1-2, kJV)

I traveled to a city that I once dreamed of but had never seen. Yet I dared not to show signs of doubt even though I had very little money and traveled in ninety-degree heat with no air-conditioning in my automobile. We quenched our thirst with cups of ice chips to avoid dehydration.

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Definitely, I was utilizing my faith-walk. Thus I had an assignment to record songs that would pull men and women out of the pit of hell.

I was obedient to the voice of God, so on August 30, 2010, I loaded up my 2006 Ford Fusion and traveled to Atlanta, Georgia—the ninth largest metropolitan area in the United States of America. God had already appointed a family to take over the mortgage of the home he gave us six years earlier. A blessed family from my home church, Life Changers Outreach Ministries, leased the beautiful property in anticipation of purchasing the home within a year. I had no intention of returning to the small urban city, for I knew God had use of me in the Atlanta, Georgia, (the ATL.)

A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps. (Prov. 16:9, kjv)

I had a desire to live in this land filled with milk and honey. I had heard so many wonderful stories about Atlanta, Georgia, being the place for individuals to be promoted in the music industry. And I, a gospel recording artist, seized the opportunity. Additionally, I wanted so desperately to travel around the world singing for God, and I knew this was my big break.

A year before I traveled to the city, I was introduced to an outstanding producer who saw my vision as an anointed psalmist. My producer allowed my children and me to reside

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in his home upon my arrival in the Atlanta area. However, the high hopes that I had were destroyed after being in the ATL for three days with nothing happening the way I planned. It made me think of Jonah who lived in the belly of the whale for three days due to his disobedience. Just as Jonah did, I cried out to the Lord.

I cried, by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord,
and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and
thou heardest my voice. For thou hadst cast me into
the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods
compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves
passed over me. Then I said, I am cast out of thy
sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.
(Jon. 2:2–4, kjv)

I knew that I heard from God prior to leaving Texas for I am familiar with the voice of my Lord. I am his sheep, and I hear his voice. Or was I so determined to be in a place that would be more accessible for me since I was an artist on a journey to find my place in this great city? I could see myself flourishing during this season of my life.

As I stated earlier, it was those encouraging words (sing, gal, sing) that kept me going and to never give up on my God-given gifts and talents. I knew that living among strangers would not be easy, but I wanted it. I could taste it! I was a songwriter whose passion was to record every song that God had given me. I wanted not one song to be mere

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ink but played through the airwaves of every gospel station in the universe. I was a gospel recording artist who had a deep burning desire to sing around the globe and never cease until the day that I could no longer sing on earth but in heaven among the other angels.

My sheep hear my voice. (John 10:27)

After living in the home of my producer 112 days outside of the Atlanta area, I was prompted by the Holy Spirit to go on a fast for seven days. During this fast, God directed me to bind poverty and loose prosperity into my life. He ordered my steps and located a home for us. Praise God! I did not have the power to do this alone, for it would take God who had already laid the foundation prior to leaving Texas. He allowed me to go through a storm to show his glory and to demonstrate his miraculous power. God restored and rebuilt my life after I was yet again deceived by so many.

Once more, I was reminded of the time on the playground at William B. Travis Elementary School in Marshall, Texas, when as a child, I was scorned and silenced. Thus, I would hide my gift for years. But I wiped the memory out of my mind and did not allow the scars that were left behind to keep me in the past. I had to focus on my future and not be as Lot's wife who was frozen in time because of looking back. I had to look ahead and not go back to my past. I had to look to God!

But beloved remember yea the words which were spoken before the apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ; How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the spirit. But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your on, your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some having compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. (Jude 1:17–23, kjv)

This was my cry out to the Lord: “Lord, who was I to think that I would not suffer pain, heartaches or be criticized. I am willing to do whatever you command for my life, my Lord, even if it means that I may go through some storms. Because once I said ‘I would go,’ that meant that I may experience something that may be unpleasant. I know it is all for the glory of God. And I know you are with me. So, I must endure! If you want me to, Lord, I must go through the valley. If you want me to, Lord, I must go through the river. If you want me to, I must go through fire. I would still go, Lord. I would go!”

As I continued to live in my producer’s home upstairs, I began to spend a lot of time with God. I began to study the Word of God morning, noon, and night. I especially

emphasized on Psalm 91, as I will address each passage in the following chapters of the book. This book is an encounter of miracles and events that occurred during the seven days of fasting, praying, and meditating on the Word of God. I referred to this place in the residence as the upper room. Thus, I learned so much in this secret place that I wanted to share with others. I learned how to worship God through it all in the upper room.

In the upper room, I first learned that sometimes when one cannot sleep, it is God shaking or waking you to spend time with him, just as Martha was too busy to spend time with Jesus, and Mary sat at his feet to spend time with him. That is what God wants us to do! We must get out of our busy schedule and spend time with him. Mary spent time with Jesus, sitting at his feet, however, Martha was so busy cleaning, cooking, and tending to the house that she was upset with Mary. Martha was unaware that she needed to spend time with Christ! God will capture our attention when we are asleep.

1. Have you ever found yourself awake in the early hours of the morning?
2. Have you ever been unable to sleep and several things going through your mind?
3. Have you found yourself staring at the ceiling when you should be asleep?

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4. Have you ever heard a still small voice speak to you during your sleep?
5. Have you ever awoken between the hours of 3:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.?

This is the Lord wanting to spend time with you. God has a way of getting our attention even if he has to wake us up from our sleep. During my time in the upper room, I began to experience this call from God, and I recognized it.

1. God wants you to spend time with him in prayer.
2. God wants you to enter into his presence with singing.
3. God wants you to manifest through the speaking of tongues.
4. God wants you to have a moment of silence where you hear from him.
5. God wants you to fast occasionally.

Just as Samuel heard the voice of God three times in 1 Samuel 3:4–10,

That the Lord called Samuel and he answered,
Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said Here am I
for thou calledst me. and he said, I called not; lie
down again. And he went and lay down. And the
Lord called yet again, Samuel. And, Samuel arose
and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst
call me. and he answered, I called not my son; lie

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down again. And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said Here am I for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child. Therefore, Eli said unto Samuel, Go lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel, Then, Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

We must make ourselves available for God to
speak to.

We must be ready to hear from God.

We must be eager to hear from the Lord.

We must be responsive to the call of God. "Speak
Lord for your servant hears!"

So come with me as I spend time with God in the
upper room (seven days of fasting in the ATL.)

1

GROUNDBREAKING



He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

—Psalm 91:1–2 (KJV)

I was definitely covered by the God of the most high. Everywhere I went, God covered me and did not allow the adversary to triumph over me. God allowed the Holy Spirit to speak to me; “Go here,” “Go there,” “No, not there,” etc. I would hear the voice of God as I journeyed through the big city of Atlanta, Georgia. You see, I was just a country girl who was very gullible, but the Holy Spirit was my comforter and guidance. Therefore, I was not easily sent on a detour.

The story takes place as I drove through the thick woods that arched Interstate 20, traveling eastbound at

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seventy-five miles per hour. I was accompanied by my two children for approximately six hours as we stop to rest at a hotel in Jackson, Mississippi for the night before proceeding another six hour trip. The high level of anticipation kept me focus and my feet to the metal. I was eager to reach my destination. It was as if I was driving through a wonderland. Angels surrounded my precious cargo; honestly, I could literally see them going before and after me.

I was delighted to finally be in the city that I once dreamed of. I felt the sweat pouring down my smooth caramel skin as my eyes became irritated from the sun. I rubbed them vigorously and continued to travel, as I knew it would not be long before I would arrived.

Thus, I continued to place crushed, frozen ice cubes on the tip of my tongue and I felt the cool breeze as I drove to Georgia. We are here! We are here! I was elated and tired as I peeled myself from behind the steering wheel. My passion for being a national gospel recording artist was bigger than me. Therefore, I was optimistic that living in this gigantic city, my talents would be accommodated. I had longed for and wished to be in a place that I would be introduced to producers who shared this passion and could see my vision. I prayed to meet a producer that loved God, had similar gifts, carried the anointing, and craved for gospel music.

Finally after all these years in waiting, I met him, and I knew we would spend hours in his studio making anointing music together. I felt we both had a strong desire

to write, record, and promote melodies straight from the throne room. These songs would free the lost, heal the ***sick and save souls. brown eyes. I bent over and kissed the very spot that I stood on. Why? I had to make sure I was not dreaming and that I was definitely standing on Georgia's soil.

However, I did not know at that appointed time that I had crossed more than just the city limits. I soon realized that I was not prepared for the journey, for I had entered into a league without preparation. My producer smiled and invited my children and me into his home and proceeded to show us our rooms.

"Where is the studio?" I asked. "When do we start recording?" He gave a quick tour of the studio. I yelled, "Wow!" It was all that I had imagined and more. Again, I asked, "When do we start?" He was not quite as anxious as I was for he did not indicate his reasons for procrastinating. *Why are we prolonging the inevitable?* I thought. "I am here to do the works of God, I thought! There were so many unanswered questions that ran through my mind: Don't you feel the same? I thought! I felt that is what we were all about! You know recording Zion songs! This is the very reason I left everyone and everything behind me in Texas. This is the reason that I am here!" I rambled anxiously with myself, but I never spoke another word!

Suddenly, I could here the voice of God saying, "Be anxious for nothing." So I calmed down and went through

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the motions. But sadly, after a very short period of time, I realized I was deceived. It was not his fault. He just did not get it. He just did not understand. It was all about the Lord's business. It was all about lost souls. He wasn't eager! He suggested we get settled in our rooms. The only room I wanted to get comfortable in was the one with a microphone waiting for me. You know, the room called the studio! How long would this song continue to play? How long would we continue to dance around the real issues? I had to hear from God to make this dream a reality. So when will I wake up? Will someone please wake me up?

Throughout my stay, I had the privilege to meet many other producers but only got more discouraged as they seem to be consumed with greed. I sat in my car crying as a producer listened on the other end of the phone. "All I want to do is do what God has ordained me to do! Please help me, sir!" Unfortunately, he was not moved by my tears. He demanded that I give him more money despite our original written agreement. I got off the phone, drove to my present residence, and retreated into my secret place—the upper room! I began to fast, pray, and believed that God would move mountains. You see, I had already recorded two songs with the company; however; they refused to release them. No one could see the mere fact that releasing these songs was about touching the hearts of men to seek God.

Was it all about fame and fortune? Silver and gold, I thought. Well, I'd rather have Jesus! Did I just step out of

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a fairyland? Does anyone record gospel music with souls in mind instead of himself or herself? Does anyone want to fill the hearts of men instead of their pockets? What about the breaking yolks and not my bank account?

I cried! I had traveled so far to be taken down a road of treachery. I did not understand why I was in a place in my life where it seems as if I was at a blur. It appeared that nothing was working on my behalf. I spent hours in the upstairs office of my producer's home, located twenty miles outside of Atlanta, Georgia, in a city called Conyers with a population of 10,689. This place of prosperity, which I envisioned half my life is now a reality. The Lord answered my prayer, and I was living in the area of my dreams. But where did I go wrong? Everything was all wrong! I prayed, "God lead me! Lord, what is going on?"

I continued singing in the praise and worship team at my new church in Conyers, Georgia. And I volunteered in the church's marketplace (thrift store.) I had to learn to be happy and content with my life, and my children were adjusting well and loved our newfound spiritual family. Happiness is a choice. I was determined to be happy. But of course, I still was praying to pursue my dreams as a national gospel recording artist that God ordained for me prior to birth. God continued to pour songs into my spirit as I met with different producers, auditioned for many plays, and signed on with a reputable local company: Stardom Productions in Forest Park, Georgia. Thus I never lost the

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faith, for I knew I was chosen on a mission to sing anointed songs that would pull men out of the pits of hell. Despite my trials and tribulations, I kept God first.

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. (Luke. 6:38, KJV)

As I walked through the city, I found myself feeling alone and desperate for the answers. As a mother, I did not want my children to suffer because of my dreams. I wanted to cry out of frustration, but I did not want to break their spirits. Still I smiled and stood up as I knew that God would continue to direct me. My children indicated to me that they believed in me. They wanted me to pursue my God-given talents. Therefore, it all seemed worth it to them. My two children were such good sports about everything. You see, my children adored their family in Texas, and I knew they missed our home but they never complained. So neither would I. We had high expectations in God!

We would spent time praying together and hearing the voice of God. It was the voice of God that gave us hope and faith. We had faith that he would direct us, just as Jeremiah felt when the city of Jerusalem laid barren. I felt that same cry to God, for I knew that the Lord had not left me. Great is his faithfulness; . Although I was experiencing grief, we knew that God had not abandoned

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us. He showed compassion according to the greatness of his loving kindness. For God did not enjoy afflicting me or causing sorrow in my life; for it is he that helps in the time of trouble.

O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul;
thou hast redeemed my life. (Lam. 3:58, kjv)

“Lord, you are my lawyer who can plead my case and redeem my life. You know the wrong people have done in my life, and you have seen the plots that my adversaries and foes have brought against me. Oh Lord, save me from this city! How could a city that I once thought would bring me such high hopes feel like a dungeon where I am now held captive?” I cried.

“Lord, please get me out of this place! All I want to do is be everything you ordained me to be. Why have I been abandoned by so many and lied to by most? Lord, tell me what to do. I do not want to be here any longer. God, set me free! Father, help me!” I sighed.

This was my prayer to God as I was literally crying out for hope for my future. I did not want to return back to Texas, for I refuse to give up so easily. I was determined to remain in Conyer, Georgia, for I knew that God put me there for a purpose. All this country girl wanted to do was sing! Can a girl just sing? Sing, gal, sing!

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For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.
(Jer. 29: 11–13, KJV)

I was in the winter season of my life. I assumed this was the breaking of the soil, because it was hard, cold, and barren as I prayed to find my place in this deserted land. Meanwhile, I spent time with God in the upper room, my prayer closet, or some may refer to it as my secret place. I began to feel a transformation in my heart. I prayed for God to use me like never before through songs, dancing and acting. I began to fast, pray, and meditate on the word more and more. During this time, God began to direct me to closed doors that would open spontaneously. He placed individuals in my life, and I would obtain favor from God.

I had been in this area for only three months, and I saw miracles in my life and my children's lives that I have never seen before. For example, I stood at a gas station with no money and an empty tank. I began to count the change that I had in my car, praying that I would scrap up enough money—at least, two or three dollars. I began to pray and sing as it always put me into the presence of God and soothed my soul, giving me a spirit of calmness. Along came a woman (God always sends an angel or a ram

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in the bush) who heard me singing! She was intrigued by the voice of heaven, as she called it. I began to tell her my story, and she became amused with the fact that I was an evangelist and a gospel singer. She was determined to sew a seed into my ministry. This seed took care of my car and blessed me to purchase other items for my children.

First, I took my tithes and place it in my purse as I would surely give back to God! Another encounter with my angels, I observed God's miraculous handwork, through an acquaintance as we shared the same banking institution, and he wanted to sew a seed. He proceeded to ask me for my account number as he wanted to bless my children and me. Immediately, I supplied him with the information as I was prompted by the Holy Spirit. Continually on several occasions, he would deposit money into my account without me being aware of it. Be careful how you treat total strangers, for you just might be entertaining angels! These were my angels placed in my life during this time. I prayed that one day, I would be able to repay them.

Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. (1 Cor. 2:9, kjv)

I saw miracles taking place that in my forty plus years of life I had never experienced before. I recalled one day walking into a store along with my children, since my son

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was in need of shoes. I began to count the change that I had in my purse and prayed that I had enough to buy him a new pair of church shoes. My daughter spotted a pair that was the perfect fit and size for him. We rushed to the cashier delighted to have found exactly what we needed for little Jaye.

As I placed the shoes at the cash register and the cashier told me the price, I began to remove the coins out of my purse and proceeded to count; a long line of impatient customers behind me. I gazed up for a brief moment only to notice that the cashier had placed the shoes in a bag and said, "Ma'am, ma'am, have a blessed day." I was shocked as I had not paid for them, but she took it upon herself to purchase the shoes as if she knew that I barely had enough money! My children and I knew that was the favor of God! We recited the scripture in Psalm 37:25.

I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not
seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging
bread. (Ps. 37:25, kjv)

I remember another time during morning worship at church that a lady shook my hand during dismissal, gently sliding me an envelope, and smiled at me as she exited the building. Later, I opened the envelope to find a one-hundred-dollar bill, and on the envelope it read, "God told me to give this to you!" I began to weep as I knew that God once again had given me favor with men. I knew that God

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favored me for he would not allow my children and me to live in lack. He would touch the heart of total strangers to feed, clothe, and shelter us. Day after day, I would continue to fast and pray and meditate on the Word of God. I could feel the peace of God and his presence. Truly, my soul loves the Lord! I must continue to sing for the Lord. *Sing, gal, sing*, I could hear in my spirit.

For my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadows
of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these
calamities be overpast. I will cry unto God most
high; unto God that performeth all things for me.
He shall send from heaven, and save me from the
reproach of him that would swallow me up. (Ps.
57:1–3, kJV)

Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward:
he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them.
(Prov. 22:5, kJV)

God blessed me to write a song titled “My Soul,” which is about the love of God and how my heart was pure, and my soul ached to feel his embrace. God captured me! He saved me! And, when I was at my lowest, he brought me out! This song projects a message that my love for God is embedded so deep in *my soul*. This was a song that was recorded during my time in Georgia but never released! . However, my prayer is that one day, it will be heard around the world.

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My Soul

My soul, my soul
My soul, my soul

You heard, my cry
You went to the ends of the earth
And brought me back

My soul cries out to you, Lord
My soul loves only you
My soul loves only you

You hide me in your shadows
Covered with your feathers
Chased away my enemies

My soul cries out to you, Lord
My soul loves only you
My soul loves only you

You shed your blood
Washed away my sins
Redeemed my soul

My soul cries out to you, Lord
My soul loves only you
My soul loves only you

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My soul
My soul
My soul

My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips: When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches. Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. (Ps. 63:1–7, kJV)

My soul longed for God, and I knew that it would not be satisfied unless I sought him. He is the only one who fulfill my soul's desire.

My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips. When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on the in the night watches. Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me. But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth. They shall fall by the sword. (Ps. 63:5–10)

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Also, during this time in the upper room, I began to develop a deeper desire to love more and to help the poor, orphans, and widows.

He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor. (Prov. 22:9, kJV)

I know that is what God commands us to do! And God blesses those who are kind to the poor.

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou will not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness. (Ps. 41:1-3, KJV)

I cried for the Lord to fill my barns and enlarge my territory and to be a blessing to others. I wanted to help the crying souls and set the captives free. I thanked him for giving me a financial anointing that would allow me to go into other cities and countries to spread the good news. I did not know that my time in the upper room was to humble me even more. Why? So that when God brought me out of the land of lack, out of the house of bondage, and out of the valley of drought, I would have a greater appreciation.

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I would never forget who brought me out. I would never forget that it was he who gave me the power to obtain wealth as stated in Deuteronomy 8:18. I would never forget, God. I would never forget.

Who led thee through the great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might hee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end.
(Deut. 8:15–16, kjv)

I was in the upper room listening to God when he spoke to me. I heard him more clearly as I fasted. Even Moses fasted during his time in the mountains when God gave him two tables of stone, the Ten Commandments. He had to fast, pray, and listen to the voice of God. Maybe, I too, like Moses, was in the mountains which represent a rugged platform. It was as if I was in the mountain to learn of God's statutes—his ways and commandments.

Verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. (Matt. 17:20, kjv)

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The disciples were unable to cast out an unclean spirit (demon) in a child because of their unbelief and lack of fasting and praying. I knew that through fasting and praying, I would overcome this distress time of my life. And I experienced a deeper love in my heart that was pure, and it was a feeling that I did not have prior to spending time in the upper room.