

LISTEN UP!

Songs from
the Parables
of Jesus

SovereignGraceKids

Everyone loves a good story.

But when Jesus told stories, he called them parables, and each one taught us something important about who God is and how He wants us to live. We've set 13 of those parables to music and cover topics like

listening, forgiveness, praying, giving, believing, and being ready for Jesus' return. We hope you'll do what the title of this album encourages you to do and *Listen Up!*

1 Listen Up

Matthew 13:1-23

VERSE 1 Here's a story
'Bout a man I know
He set out with seed to sow
Some seed fell on the path that day
The birds swooped down
And took it away

VERSE 2 Some seed fell
On the rocks and stones
Shot up quick, but found no home
Other seeds fell on the thorny ground
The weeds came up
And choked them out

CHORUS Listen up!
God gave us ears to hear His Word
Listen up! Then think about
Everything we've heard
Listen up! Our hearts are soil
Where the Word can grow
Holy Spirit, help us know
How to listen up

VERSE 3 Some seed fell
Where the soil was good
The roots grew deep
Just like they should
Water and sun
Made the plants grow high
The fruit was good and multiplied

BRIDGE If we want to grow
Then we need to know
The gospel, the gospel
Jesus died and rose to forgive all those
Who believe in Him

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Bob Kaufin © 2017 Sovereign Grace Praise
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2

Sand Pile Blues

Matthew 7:24–27

VERSE 1 Let me tell you
'Bout the saddest news
It's the reason that I'm singin' the blues
I built myself a house
On some seaside land
Along came a storm
And it got out of hand
I heard a sound, my house fell down!
Now all I got is a pile of sand

CHORUS I got the blues
The sand pile blues
That's all that's left
From my foolishness
I didn't dig deep
My foundation was weak
So here's the key: don't be like me
Or you'll be singin' the sand pile blues

VERSE 2 I shoulda known
What was up ahead
My next door neighbor
Came to me and said
"Hey there, friend
You better make a plan
To build your house
On a rock if you can
And when the winds come rushin' in
You won't be stuck with a pile of sand."

VERSE 3 So, here's the lesson
From the things I've been taught:
You have to build your life
On the solid Rock
Believe in Jesus
That He died for your sins
And saved your life
So you could follow Him
He'll make you stand and in the end
You won't be sittin' in a pile of sand

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3

Ready, Set, Go

Matthew 13:44–46

VERSE 1 If there was treasure
Buried in a field
Something more valuable
Than anything
We'd figure out a way to buy that land
So we could hold the treasure
In our hands

VERSE 2 And if we heard
About a special pearl
Worth more than any other
In the world
We might sell all we had and buy a boat
So we could give that pearl
A brand new home, but

PRE-CHORUS
There's no treasure greater
Than to know our God and Savior

CHORUS Ready, set, go!
Seeking You
Is the adventure of a lifetime
You're better than gold
And any other treasure
You are worth it all
Even if we have to lose our lives
To find You
You are the God we want to know
Ready, set, go!

VERSE 3 And all who look for You
Will come to find
That You've been calling
To us all the time
You sent Your Son
So He could set us free
To love and follow You eternally, for

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4

Good and Faithful Shepherd

Psalms 23, John 10:1–33

VERSE 1 See the sheep
With their Shepherd
How he's guiding their way
Through the hills and the valleys
How he's keeping them safe
When the day turns to evening
He will make them lie down
Then he waits and he watches
They can sleep safe and sound

CHORUS 1 We have a good
And faithful Shepherd too
Jesus, the One who calls to me and you
If we listen to His voice
And follow where He leads
We'll come to know
He's all we'll ever need

VERSE 2 At dawn the shepherd
Will call them
He knows the names of each one
They trust his voice when they hear it
And they eagerly come
If they happen to wander
Slip away all alone
He will look till he finds them
He will bring them back home

VERSE 3 We've all strayed
Like the lost sheep
In the valley of sin
Disobeyed God's commandments
Run away from our King
But Jesus gave up His glory
To seek and rescue the lost
To bring us back to His Father
He gave His life on the cross

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5

Lord, Help Us Forgive

Matthew 18:21–35, Luke 7:41–50

VERSE 1 A king once had a servant
Who owed him a huge debt
But the king forgave the servant
Sent him home, and yet
When a friend who owed the servant
A debt that was so small
He begged the servant for mercy
But he got none at all
The king heard all about it
And was he ever mad!
He sent the servant to prison
And took away all he had
Said he had to stay there
Till he could pay it all back
'Cause the servant was forgiven
But forgiveness was what he lacked

CHORUS Our debt was satisfied
On the cross when Jesus died
And if we've been forgiven
It's gotta change the way we're livin'
How can we hold a grudge
How can we fail to love
Once we have known what mercy is?
Lord, help us forgive

VERSE 2 Now, Peter came to Jesus
Because he was so confused
"If my brother keeps on sinning
Against me what should I do?
I'm trying to be patient
I'm trying to be kind
Do I have to forgive him
The same thing seven times?"
Our sins were countless
Like the sand on the shore
We should be grateful that the Lord
He's not keeping a score
No—His love erased them
They washed away when
He hung and died on the cross
And paid the payment

BRIDGE It can be hard to forgive
There's no pretending
But we've been changed by a grace
That's never ending

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Love Like You

Luke 10:25–37

VERSE 1 A man travelin’
Down the road
Was robbed and left for dead
Some neighbors might have helped
But they walked on instead
And then a stranger came along
And then a stranger came along
And bandaged up his wounds
And showed us what it means
To love like You

CHORUS Lord, we wanna
Love like You
With open arms and an open heart
We wanna love like You
And show the world how good You are
Anyone can be our neighbor in need
Help us to do what You would do
We wanna love like You

VERSE 2 We were made for
Loving You
‘Cause You’re the very best
And to love our neighbors too
Treat them with kindness
And it’s not okay to look away
And think we’ve done enough
‘Cause that is not the way
That You love us

BRIDGE When we were in
Desperate need
You loved us, loved us
While we were still Your enemies
You loved us, loved us
When there was nothing we could do
You loved us, loved us
So we could be like You, You loved us

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Our Good Father

Luke 11:1–13

VERSE 1 Lil’ Johnny
Came home from school
Hungry, tired, needin’ some fuel
Went to find some fish sticks
In the fridge
Johnny’s dad was standing there, said
“Sit on down, son, and I’ll prepare”
You’ll never guess what that dad did!
Whoa, whoa, what’s the deal?
He served up the weirdest meal—
Sliding on his dinner plate
Johnny saw a rattlesnake!

CHORUS No good father’s
Gonna give us something like that
Uh-uh, no way
Our good Father always does us good
When we ask, but you gotta pray

VERSE 2 Lil’ Suzy
Woke up one day
Hungerin’, hankerin’ for some eggs
When in the room her dad appeared
Then he gave her something strange
It didn’t help her hunger pangs
In fact, her brown eyes filled with tears
Hey hey, my oh my, what’d she see?
Why’d she cry?
Breakfast made her want to run—
It was a scorpion!

OUTRO Keep askin’, keep hopin’
Keep knockin’, it’ll open
Keep prayin’, keep seekin’
God knows just what we’re needin’

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8 Givers Like God

Luke 12:22-34

VERSE 1 God chose to give
The flowers petals
And knows to give
The birds their feathers
His creatures never worry
Whether they will be clothed
He fills them with
The proper fillers (true!)
He knows that birds
Like caterpillars (ew!)
God is the first and best of givers
He always knows and so we know

CHORUS God will give us
Everything we need
Clothes to wear, food to eat
Love to share, and air to breathe
God is full of generosity
And so we know we want to be
Givers like God, givers like God

VERSE 2 A grateful heart
Will not be greedy
God gives us all we need so freely
So, when we see somebody needy
We want to share
If we've received
The gift of heaven (yes!)
We have received
The greatest blessing (blessed!)
O Spirit, help us learn this lesson:
The riches there can't be compared

BRIDGE We see something
And we love it
Crave it and we covet
And that's not right
It's so much better to consider
The joy of being givers
Like Jesus Christ

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9 Gracious Invitation

Luke 14:16-24

VERSE 1 There's a party for us
And it's free, free, free
The Host said He's paying
For everything
The doors are open wide for everyone!
It's a banquet with all
Of our favorite foods
Friendship and music
And all things good
The countdown to our gladness
Has begun, has begun

CHORUS It's a gracious invitation
To the Savior's celebration
Love and joy are waiting
And He says, "Come!" So, we will come!

VERSE 2 There is joy to be had
And it's now, now, now
A feast to be shared with the
God of Wow! And there's no telling
What He has prepared!
Imagine it all and then think again
His Son gave His life to invite us in
And best of all the invite
Can be shared, can be shared

VERSE 3 But some are invited
And just won't go
They make their excuses
And answer "No!"
They think that they can find
A better feast
They waited too long
And they lost their chance
But the Host of the party
Has awesome plans
To invite the hungry, weary
And the least, and the least

LAST CHORUS
It's a gracious invitation
To the Savior's celebration
Love and joy are waiting
And He says, "Come!"
There's no hesitation
No need for debating
Love and joy are waiting
And He says, "Come!" So, we will come!

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10 Lost Is Found

Luke 15

VERSE 1 There were a hundred
Sheep in fields of green
And their shepherd loved them so
But one got lost inside a deep ravine
And didn't know how to get home
The shepherd sought
The one who strayed
And wouldn't rest 'til he could say:

CHORUS "What was once lost is found
Raise up a joyful sound
Come now and celebrate
This one is home and safe!
What was once lost is found
It's time to jump around
Let happiness abound
For the lost is found!"

VERSE 2 There were ten precious
Coins a lady kept
Until one day there were nine
She ran around the house
And carefully swept

To seek the one she couldn't find
And when at last her coin appeared
She wanted everyone to hear:

VERSE 3 There was a boy who
Left his father's home
But found himself with pigs and mud
He came back sure
That he had been disowned
Though he was sad for what he'd done
But as in shame he hung his head
His father ran to him and said:

BRIDGE Everyday it's happening—
The lost are found
By their loving King and
As they turn from all their sin
Listen, you can hear the angels sing:

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11 Welcome In

Luke 16:19–31

VERSE 1 There was a wealthy man
Who feasted every day
But right outside
From the dawn till night
A needy and sick man lay
But soon both men had died
And stood before their God
The rich man saw
Heaven can't be bought
The poor man found he was loved

VERSE 2 Our God in heaven is just
His eyes can bear no sin
His holiness and nothing less
Is needed to come to Him
For those who don't believe
God's judgment is their choice
But those made right
Through the blood of Christ
Will know the greatest of joys

VERSE 3 Both hell and heaven are real
And God wants us to know
That Christ endured
What we each deserve
So heaven could be our home
And if we believe God's Son
Has paid for all our sin
Then, by His grace
When we see His face
His smile will say, "Welcome in!"

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12 Everybody Needs You

Luke 18:9–14

VERSE 1 I don't wanna be
Like a Pharisee
Saying "Look at all the good I've done!"
God, You see within
And You know all my sin
Lord, I need Your mercy

CHORUS Everybody needs You
Everybody needs Jesus
Everybody needs You
And I need You too

VERSE 2 Even though I'm small
I am growing tall
Yet there's one thing I will not outgrow
People of every age
Still call on You to save
We all need Your mercy

BRIDGE Lord, You are strong
When I am weak
There's no other Savior that I need
You paid my debt
You conquered death
Help me to believe

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13 Be Ready

Matthew 25:1–30

VERSE 1 Now, if we hear
There's a storm that's near
We'll want to grab a coat to wear
An umbrella too
Would be something good
So that we can be prepared

VERSE 2 Well, Jesus said
We should plan ahead
Because He's coming back one day
And those who've heard
And believed His words
Will be prepared to celebrate

CHORUS Be ready, be ready
The King is gonna come again
Be ready, be ready
His reign is gonna have no end

VERSE 3 Now, some believe
They don't really need
To think about the judgment day
But they will find
They've been so unwise
And it will come a day too late

BRIDGE Dark clouds tell us
Soon it's gonna rain
But no one knows when Jesus
Is coming back again

VERSE 4 So, here's the truth
In this simple tune:
We should always watch and pray
And we'll be glad
When the Lord comes back
If we're trusting Him today

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Credits

1. Listen Up!
2. Sand Pile Blues
3. Ready, Set, Go!
4. Good and Faithful Shepherd
5. Lord, Help Us Forgive
6. Love Like You
7. Our Good Father
8. Givers Like God
9. Gracious Invitation
10. Lost Is Found
11. Welcome In
12. Everybody Needs You
13. Be Ready

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PRODUCED by Ben Gowell,
Assisted by AJ Mather

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Bob Kauffin

RECORDED AND MIXED
by AJ Mather and Ben Gowell at
CCV Studio (Phoenix, AZ)

LEAD VOCALS RECORDED
by Sal Oliveri at Grand Central South
(Brentwood, TN)

**KIDS CHOIR AND LEAD
VOCALS (5, 11) RECORDED**
by Grace Nixon at Sovereign Grace
Studio (Louisville, KY)

MASTERED by Jim Demain at
Yes Master Studios (Nashville, TN)

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Brittany Kauffin

Credits

LEAD VOCALISTS Jon Althoff
(1, 3, 5, 12), McKenzie Fuller (4, 7, 13),
Holly Harris (5, 8, 10), Lacy Hudson (11),
Kenny Komatsu (5), Doug Plank (2),
Jon Underhill (6, 9)

BGVs Jon Althoff, Matt Calio,
Holly Harris, Bob Kauffin, Grace Nixon,
Dave Parks, Jon Underhill, Lacy Hudson

KIDS CHOIR Talitha Hirst, Tory
Mular, Hannah Underhill, Hailey
Ziegler, Joshua Ziegler, Zach Ziegler

DRUMS AND PERCUSSION
Steve Goid

BASS Aaron Fabbrini

ELECTRIC GUITAR & BANJO
Jasper Nephew

KEYBOARDS/PROGRAMMING
Andre Rodriguez

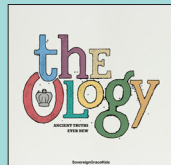
**ACOUSTIC & ELECTRIC
GUITARS** Ben Gowell

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING
AJ Mather

EDITORIAL Bob Kauffin

DESIGN Carrie Donovan

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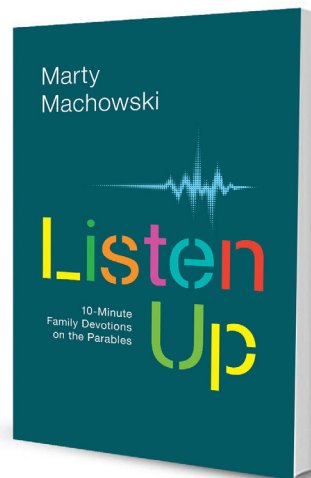
WorshipMatters.com

If you lead worship in your church or ministry, you can find insights, resources, and other tools at this blog by Bob Kauflin, Director of Sovereign Grace Music.

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Sovereign Grace Churches exists to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ by planting and strengthening churches for the glory of God. Visit us to learn more or email info@sovereigngrace.com.

Listen Up! Read the book, too.



This album is a companion to *Listen Up* by Marty Machowski, available through New Growth Press.

- Gospel truths told in simple, easy-to-understand stories.
- Family activities, discussion questions, and Bible readings make leading family devotions stress-free for busy parents.
- 10-minute a day format holds children's attention.
- Memorable stories that will give children the tools to remember key gospel principles.

Sunday School curriculum also available.

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