



# 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 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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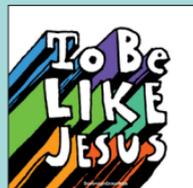
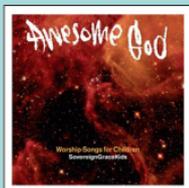
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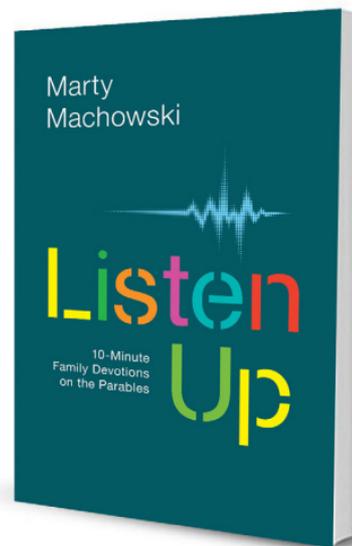
### WorshipMatters.com

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.

### SovereignGrace.com

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## 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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