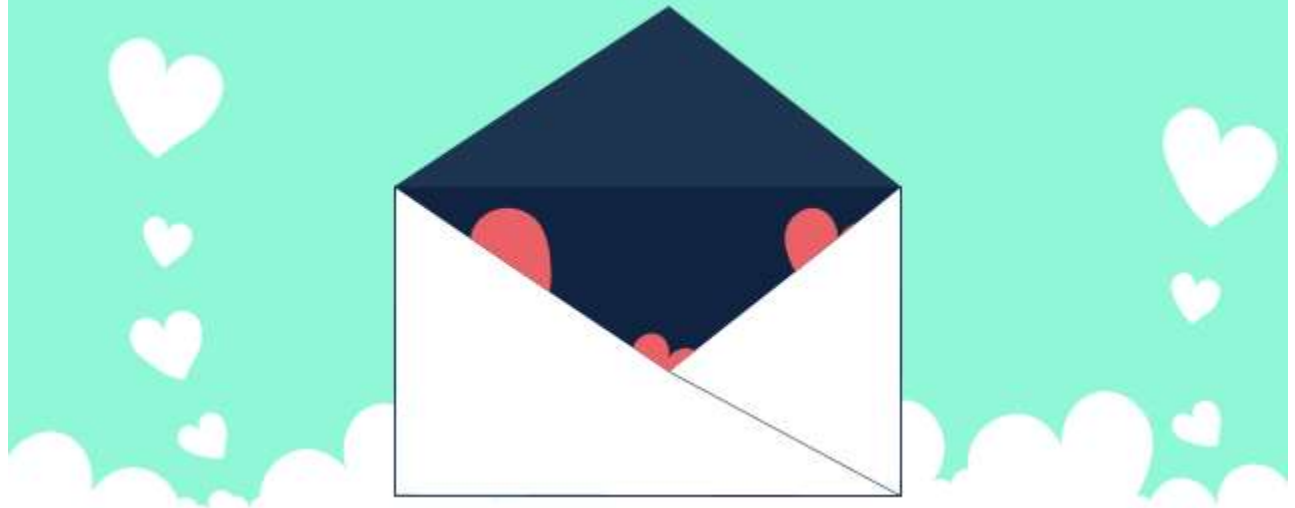


You're going to love this



Speak the Symphony

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The Lord began 2020 by calling me **out of bed** earlier than usual (way too early, in my opinion-- sorry, but I'm not much of a morning person). I've had many seasons in life that included consistent early **rising**, but I admit I wasn't enamored by the idea of doing it again so soon...

On the first of many mornings when the Holy Spirit **nudged** me to **get up**, all I wanted to do was stay snuggled and **asleep**, cozy and **comfortable**.

*I was SO **tired**.*

*Like, **delirious**, deep-**heaviness**, **half-asleep** tired.*

Do you know what I did? I **justified** that it didn't matter whether I **got up** early and prayed, or **arose** 'on time' and prayed. In addition, I'm not pleased to report that, in my **stupor**, I **reasoned** I can pray in my head just as well as with my **voice**.

I was wrong.

The full testimony of what happened next and over the course of the following weeks extends beyond the space and scope of this writing, but the bottom line is this:

Incredible things happen when we pray **out loud**.

I'd also go so far as to say that we-- and even those for whom we pray-- may **miss out** on **blessings and answered prayer**, when we **neglect** to pray **out loud** when the Spirit so prompts.

In the Psalms alone, there are over 45 verses that **guarantee**
God will hear us and respond mightily,
when we cry out to Him with our voice, out loud.

The Hebrew root word for **voice** in the Bible is qowl.
Here is its meaning:

To call aloud;
A voice or sound:
aloud, bleating, crackling, cry (out),
(pro-) claim, proclamation, sing, sound,
spark, thunder(-ing), voice, yell.

Sure, silent prayers are fine, and God will 'hear' us. He knows our thoughts before we think them. (Psalm 139) Scripture makes it clear, though, that there is something **special and supernatural** about using our **voice**. It seems to bring forth **action** that goes farther and deeper than when we just 'think'. Don't take my word for it-- let's look at God's Word. Here are some of the things that happen (recorded throughout the Psalms) when we pray **out loud, with our voice**:

Our soul is emboldened with strength
He brings us out of our distresses and relieves us
He gives us understanding
We are revived
He delivers and honors us
He regards our affliction
He makes our enemies turn back
He is extolled
He draws near to save us out of all our troubles
He avenges and remembers us
He heals us!
He performs all things for us!

The Scriptures that reveal these truths
are 'if, then' statements.

If you use your voice, then He will do these things.

Do you want strength? Relief? Revival? Understanding?

Are you in trouble, distress, or need?

Call upon the Lord.

With your **voice. Out loud.**

Then watch Him show up and keep His Word.

CHALLENGE

I'll never forget how much my husband's **voice** affected me when I first met him. At times, his **voice** would strike my soul like strum of a harp or violin. The core of my soul would **tickle** at his **voice**, which played like a gentle, acoustic guitar. An envelope of love would open up from within me, bursting forth with **exuberant joy**.

I believe this is a **faded picture** of how God feels when we **talk aloud** with Him. In Song of Solomon 2, He says your **voice** is **sweet** to Him. It's **pleasing** to Him.

Your voice is His pleasure!

As you know, sound moves in waves, using vibration. Likewise, our **vocal cords** produce '**voice,**' using vibration and air flow.

In a sense, there's a **symphony** that occurs when you **speak and pray out loud**.

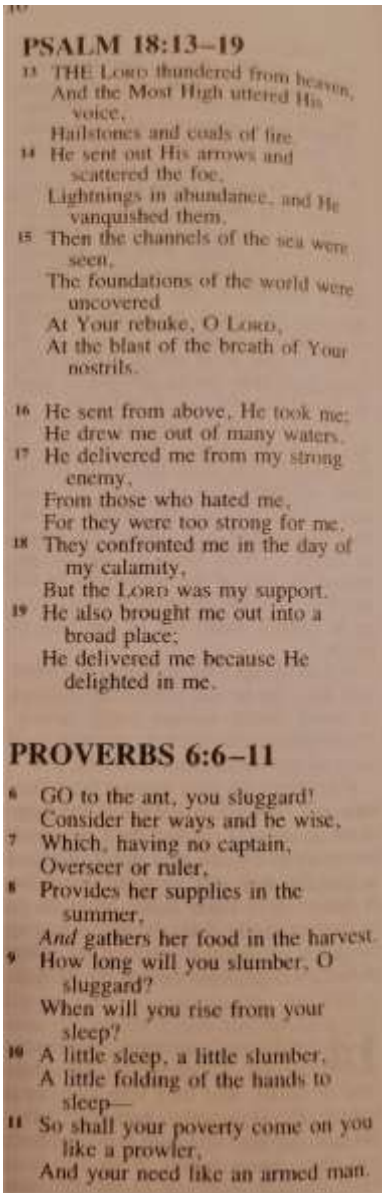
In some **beautifully mysterious way**, that **chorus** moves heaven, the heart of God, our circumstances, and even our own attitudes.

Don't you love this? It's so simple.

At a recent **prayer** gathering, a woman referred to a missionary friend returning to the mission field after taking furlough here in the States. The missionary friend said she couldn't wait to return to the foreign country, because the natives there are **thirsty for God**, so **alert to His presence**. The missionary had referred to North American Christians as the **sleepy church**. My heart sank to hear this.

Bride of Christ, let's **wake up!**

Use your *vocal 'chords'*, and *speak* with God. *Out loud*.
If just one *voice* creates a *divine symphony* before the
throne of God, imagine what all our *voices* create *together*.



**One more thing-- this was
incredible!**

Check out my One Year Bible reading from
the very morning God began
calling me out of bed.

A picture of the reading is to the left.
The top half is from Psalm 18,
revealing even more of what God does for
us when we *call to Him with our voice*.
The bottom half of the picture is
...well, you can read it. A timely word
of confirmation and warning.

For Further Study:

Do a Scripture search for verses that
use the words *voice, speak, call, and
cry*. Notice not only what happens **when
we pray aloud**, but also what happens
when GOD speaks. He didn't think
creation into existence—He *spoke* it.
Obviously, we are not God, and we cannot
speak trees or people into existence.
But God, who is **all about His Word**,
created humans in His image and with
a *voice*; it's fun to see what happens
when He speaks and also when we use our
voices for Him and as He
designed. Enjoy!

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