

## **A Night to Remember – A New Song – by Marcy Lytle**

I read over on the Three Moms page about how one mom suggested sitting down with the kiddos to start the new year with asking them for prayer request, setting goals for family time, and scheduling on the calendar intentional fun. Any time a new year begins, it's such a good thing to start fresh, with all the new toys, the new calendars, and the new hope that arises after a season of joy. So this devo is about a new song!

In the book of the psalms there are many verses about having a new song. There are prayers to God asking for a new song, and there are reminders to us to sing a new song.

Psalm 40:3 says,

*He put a **new** song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.*

*Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him.*

What's your favorite song? (Let the kids answer).

So let's play them and listen to the words and the music, and see what it is that we like about these songs! (Play each song and discuss what you like, or choose a couple if time is limited.)

Sometimes, over the course of a year we can have sour notes appear in our songs that we sing. Maybe we start the new year out thankful for all we've received for Christmas, and then we start to wish we'd gotten more and that sort of sounds sour – like complaining – like terrible notes in a song. (Ask someone to sing a line of a song but make one note sound sour...)

This is the perfect time to ask the Lord to give us a new song, by replacing our sour notes with His notes of joy and thanksgiving.

Think about the songs we like – it's usually because they're joyful or happy. So let's pray together for a new song of joy for 2023 to come out of our mouths. And when we do, others see and then trust the Lord, as well – what a cool promise!

Now that we've asked, let's read one more verse.

Psalm 96:1

Sing to the LORD a **new** song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Once we have a new song in our hearts, we are told to sing – to sing to the Lord – sing our new songs!

A song of praise talks about the goodness of God. Do we have favorite songs of praise we've learned? What are they? (Let them share.)

How can we sing these songs we love in a new way? (Ask for suggestions and then make some...we can add instruments, we can clap or tap our feet, we can dance, we can smile or raise our hands. We can sing loud or sing softly, or with our eyes closed.)

Guess what else? We can write and sing our own songs of praise! (See if the kids have any thoughts or lyrics or music and sing them!)

Let's sing a song together a new way, with our new heart of joy, and give thanks for a new year, a new song and purpose to sing together all year long.

Family prayer: *Lord, we ask for new songs all year long, and then for the reminders to sing them. Give us new ways to sing the songs you place in our hearts, and to write our own songs. Thank you for your joy, and may we spread it to those around us with new songs.*