

Life today

What kinds of music do you like listening to? Which instruments are your favourites? How does music make you feel?

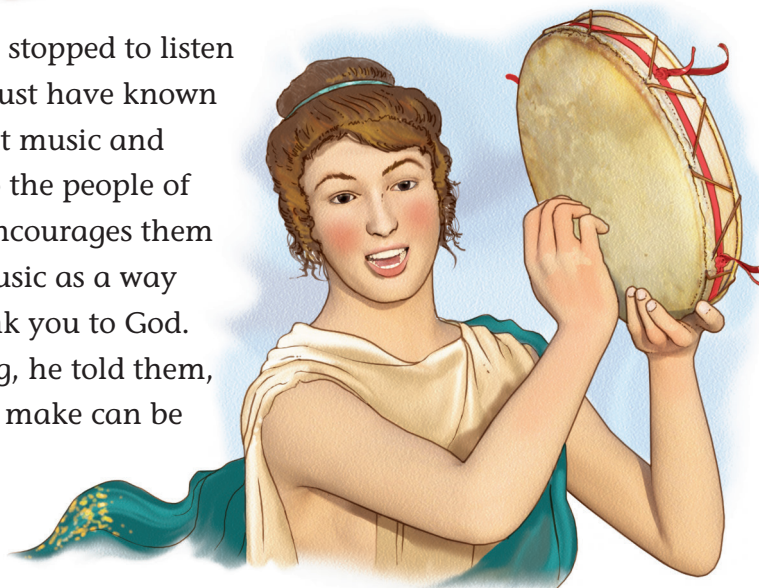


Imagine

You are walking in a busy city, but one without any traffic noise or aeroplanes or machines. What can you hear? People calling out in the street, the sounds of carts rolling along – and perhaps you can also hear the sound of singing coming from a temple or a house. Along with the voice, you can hear some instruments. There is the beautiful calm sound of strings played on a harp or a lyre. There are flutes and whistles and even eerie pan pipes. Tambourines and castanets add rhythm and different sound. Beautiful music floats across the street. You stop to listen.



Paul will have stopped to listen too, and he must have known how important music and singing was to the people of Ephesus. He encourages them to use their music as a way of saying thank you to God. When you sing, he told them, the music you make can be for God.



Paul's letter to the Ephesians

A nugget to explore with children:
Chapter 5, verses 19 and 20

Did you know?

Many Ancient Greek poems and plays had music written to go with the words. Music also played a part in many events, such as festivals, parties, and sport. There was even special music played before going into battle. Learning to play a musical instrument and to sing was an important part of Greek education.

As you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.