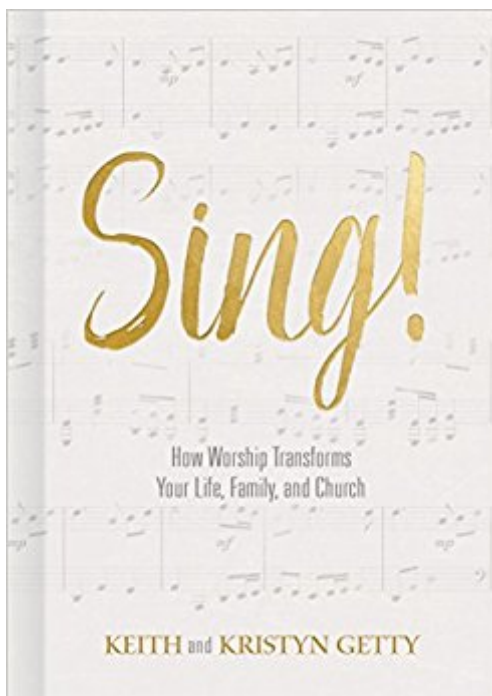


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Sing!: How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family, And Church



Synopsis

Sing! has grown from Keith and Kristyn Getty's passion for congregational singing; it has been formed by their traveling and playing and listening and discussing and learning and teaching all over the world. And in writing it, they have five key aims: to discover why we sing and the overwhelming joy and holy privilege that comes with singing to consider how singing impacts our hearts and minds and all of our lives to cultivate a culture of family singing in our daily home life to equip our churches for wholeheartedly singing to the Lord and one another as an expression of unity to inspire us to see congregational singing as a radical witness to the world They have also added a few "bonus tracks" at the end with some more practical suggestions for different groups who are more deeply involved with church singing. God intends for this compelling vision of His people singing—a people joyfully joining together in a song with brothers and sisters around the world and around his heavenly throne—to include you. He wants you, he wants us, to sing.

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Customer Reviews

"The beauty of this book is how consistent it is with who and what the Gettys have been to the Church over the past decade. Their contribution is not significant because of the extraordinary but the ordinary. They are ordinary Christians who have made an extraordinary impact, not because of their musical or theological credentials, but because of their desire and willingness to devote

themselves to the ordinary things. Sing! is an exposition of those ordinary things that have allowed the Gettys to be used by the Lord to bless, encourage, and provoke so many of us not only to sing to the Lord a new song, but also to love and appreciate the old ones. May this practical, pastoral, theological, accessible, and delightful book help and bless many. May it encourage us all to Sing!

—Voddie Baucham Jr., dean of Theological Education, African Christian University in Lusaka, Zambia

“Here is a book worth buying. Filled with biblical, practical insight that, understood and taken to heart, will revolutionize congregational singing.

—Alistair Begg, pastor of Truth for Life Radio and general editor of the Spurgeon Study Bible

“Sing! is wonderful! It’s a treasury of lost principles discovered for a new generation of worshippers. Sing! reminds me and my family that God uses music and the Word to transform the world, and that our part in His process of renewing all things is to open our mouths.

—Kirk Cameron, film actor and producer

“With a rare combination of theological insight, the lessons shaped by years of practical experience, and remarkable readability, this book is simultaneously evocative, informative, and accessible.

—D. A. Carson, author, president, and founder of The Gospel Coalition

“The Gettys have been helping us sing for years now by the songs they’ve written. Now they help us in a different way. This book encourages us to realize that singing is an important part of spiritual life. Each chapter is short and readable. Each one also ends with good questions. Useful for individuals, Bible studies, or Sunday school classes

•read, enjoy, discuss•and sing!

—Mark Dever, senior pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington D.C.

“If there is an area in special need of reformation in the worship of evangelical churches, it is congregational singing. I am so thankful for the Gettys’ hearts for this vital aspect of our communion with God. One place for us to begin this recovery is to understand why singing together is so important. This book will help. People and pastors alike need to read it.

—Ligon Duncan, president of Reformed Theological Seminary

“This practical book has four outstanding characteristics: it is written by seasoned musicians and song writers; it challenges the whole body of Christ, including pastoral and worship leaders, and professional Christian musicians, to worship meaningfully; it touches personal, family and congregational worship; and, it provides useful discussion questions that give a framework for group study and reflection. This book will be used widely to promote singing and worship in the church.

—Matthew Ebenezer, teaching elder of Reformed Presbyterian Church of India and author of What the Apostles Believed: A Devotional Commentary

“Keith and Kristyn’s music has always inspired my worship and deepened my faith at the same time. In an era when much contemporary Christian music is vapid, shallow, and theologically flimsy,

they are a two-person reformation team whose songs will stand the test of time. Os Guinness, author of *The Call* “Somewhere along the way, it seems the Western church began to believe that singing was for singers. With this book, the Gettys have brought us back to the essential truth that singing is for believers. Once we understand that, the question, “Do you have a voice?” changes to, “Do you have a song?” Sing! helps us discover all the reasons God put a new song in our hearts the moment we met Him. Thank you, Keith and Kristyn, for this vital message.

Mike Harland, director of LifeWay Worship Resource “This book sparkles with ideas. In this bedeviled world there’s no greater joy than profound truths of Jesus love borne by great text and tune, and carried from Sunday into life and life eternal. That’s what the Gettys do. Here’s Why? and How? and Matthew Harrison, president of LCMS “Keith and Kristyn have served the church for years through their songs. Now they’ve gone one step further and served us with their book, *Sing!* It’s a treasure trove of biblical, practical, and gospel counsel for those who love to sing, want to sing, or don’t think they can sing.

Bob Kauflin, director of Sovereign Grace Music “This book reminds us that often the most effective means of catechizing our children will come as we teach them the great truths contained in the lyrics of the songs, hymns, and spiritual songs we sing together as a family. I’m hoping this book will motivate more moms and dads to make sure their children memorize the songs of Watts, Wesley, Toplady, and so many others.

Bob Lepine, vice president of FamilyLife Today, Radio Host “Jonathan Edwards said that “no light in the understanding is good which does not produce holy affection in the heart. Both in their music and now in this book, Keith and Kristyn Getty demonstrate how God-centered singing creates holy affection in the hearts of God’s people. I therefore urge any who are concerned to bring our God the worship He deserves to read this book alongside Edwards’ *Treatise on Religious Affections*.

Samuel Logan, president emeritus of Westminster Theological Seminary (PA) and associate international director of The World Reformed Fellowship “I love Keith and Kristyn Getty! As friends. As songwriters. As worship leaders. They never fail to uplift and inspire my heart to sing! I pray that not only their music but this book will do the same for others.

Anne Graham Lotz, author, speaker, and daughter of Billy Graham “We Africans love singing and our singing is often incredibly melodious and robust. Finally, here is a book to help us as church leaders and congregants think through how we can turn this wonderful gift into truly biblical heartfelt worship. This book is amazingly readable and practical. Starting from the basics, the Gettys warmly challenge us all to sing the glorious truths of God in our

families and churches. And who is better suited to do this than the couple that God has marvelously used to revive Christ-centered hymn singing across the globe in our generation? Having read this book, I just want to do one thing—sing!” —Conrad Mbewe, Pastor of Kabwata Baptist Church and Chancellor of the African Christian University in Lusaka, Zambia.

“The Gettys are a precious benediction from heaven to enrich our praise. They have been used by the Lord to provide theologically rich, singable music for the church in this generation. More than anyone else they have led in the long awaited revival of hymns which have always been the true music of the church.” —John MacArthur, pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church

“As I’ve monitored trends in today’s church music, I’ve longed for someone with insight and courage to write a book like this. It’s not enough to recommend it to you. I also recommend you pass it along to your church, your small group, your choir, and even the friends on your Christmas list. We need to talk about what’s happening to today’s worship. We need to make sure we’re singing to the Lord with all His truth flowing through our hearts and filling our lungs and pleasing our Lord. We’re made for this, but we’re missing this. Let Keith and Kristyn give you voice lessons for the soul with this book that rings with their convictions and experiences. Read it and sing!” —Robert Morgan, author of *Then Sings My Soul*

“I have read a lot about worship and about music in worship—but never before just about singing! What a wonderful subject, and what a wonderful book. I did not think I needed yet another reason to be grateful to Keith and Kristyn Getty. But now I have one!” —Richard Mouw, president emeritus of Fuller Theological Seminary

“One of Martin Luther’s earliest books stressed two things essential to the church service: the sermon and congregational singing. This book by the Gettys makes an urgent call to Christians in our day not to forfeit our great privilege to sing the praise due to our Creator and Redeemer. Read it and, then, sing.” —Stephen J. Nichols, president of Reformation Bible College and chief academic officer, Ligonier Ministries

“Keith and Kristyn Getty are good friends of mine and good gifts from God to His Church. They teach, help, and lead us to sing in a way that reveres the holiness of God, reflects the Word of God, edifies the Church of God, and compels us on mission for God in a world that desperately needs to know His glory.” —David Platt, author of *Radical* and president of the International Mission Board

“Keith and Kristyn have been an inspiration to me, as well as many others. This great book is a challenging treatise on Christian singing that every pastor and worship leader regardless of any culture, should put into practice along with the Bible in order that the church’s singing becomes a major part of what the life-changing experience of worship is.” —Yusin Pons, worship leader and

songwriter, Baptist Convention of Western Cuba

“Sing! is not just a book; it’s a revolution. The music of Keith and Kristyn Getty has been a movement in our churches. Now this book will take the movement from the platform to the congregation. What a gift the Gettys are to our churches. What a gift this book is for our churches’ future.”

•Thom S. Rainer, author of *I Am a Church Member* and president of LifeWay Christian Resources

“There are many who sing out of love for the art, although this sounds very artistic. When we talk about singing to God, doing so out of love for the art is not enough. Keith and Kristyn combine biblical precision and agile writing to show us the privilege and beauty of worshipping our Lord through song. This very easy-to-read book has already become a reference that will certainly aid me in the formation of a new generation of worshippers, in the personal as well as in the family and congregational context.”

•Otto Sanchez, author and pastor of Ozama Baptist Church in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

“I’m more than excited by Keith and Kristyn’s new book: it’s short, highly readable, while making a profoundly compelling case for singing as a key discipling tool in our personal lives, our families, the church, and even in reaching the millennials. I particularly like the bonus track for pastors as a catalyst for making sure I am being faithful in encouraging my congregation to sing to God’s glory. This book is a real gift to the twenty-first-century Church. It literally makes you want to sing!”

•Ronald Scates, senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church (ECO), San Antonio, Texas

“I absolutely loved this book. Why? Because it had a great tone, was deep and rich, biblical, practical, informative, insightful, and helpful. Excuse the pun, but they are singing my tune. It should be must reading for all contemporary song writers (other than Keith and Kristyn, of course!).”

•Mike Sharrett, assistant pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church (PCA), Willow Grove, PA

“We know and often gladly use the Gettys music in our local church. In our opinion it meets the biblical criteria for church music. They are wonderful songs, on all levels, and make a deep impact in the lives of worshippers.”

•E.J. (Rassie) Smit, chairperson of The Liturgical Commission of the General Synod of the Reformed Churches, South Africa

“Congregational singing seems to be the biblical command that many have forgotten. Here in *Sing!* the Gettys tell us why it matters and how to bring it back. You and your church need this book.”

•Ed Stetzer, Billy Graham distinguished chair, Wheaton College

“Few capture the vision of the true purpose of congregational worship like my friend Keith Getty. In the same way his songs have blessed us for decades, this book is a gift to the church and inspiring to anyone who longs to understand how near our corporate song is to the heart of God.”

•Laura Story, worship leader and songwriter

(*“Indescribable”*, *“Blessings”*) *“It’s one thing to sing a praise song to God by yourself; it’s quite another when Christian friends join in with harmony. God designed and created us to sing together! Keith and Kristyn have a passion to get the church singing communally with voices blending in sweet accord, and their remarkable new book Sing! serves as a practical guide to reintroduce the church to classic and current hymns of the faith. You can help bring a fresh, Spirit- blessed ministry of music to your small group or congregation, just using the book you hold in your hands . . . so flip the page and get singing!”*—Joni Eareckson Tada, Joni and Friends International Disability Center *“I am thankful for the music of Keith and Kristyn Getty. Their music has been embraced globally, and Australian churches in particular have been encouraged to find their singing voice through their timeless hymns. I have seen diverse congregations around Australia, of every age group, find a common voice through Keith and Kristyn’s excellent, singable, and deeply rich hymns. I couldn’t be more thankful for this new book Sing! and look forward to Aussie churches finding yet another wonderful resource from the Gettys to encourage us to enjoy our singing and allow our singing to help shape our mission as a part of the global church. “I’ve had the privilege of sitting in on many of Keith’s training days as we have traveled around the United States, and now all of that insight and encouragement is in this new book Sing!. As someone who has seen younger generations in Australia engage with the beauty of the gospel through Keith and Kristyn’s hymns, I am thankful for their passion to encourage the global church to sing, most obviously through their own timeless and excellent hymn writing, and now in their latest resource for churches everywhere, Sing!”*—Nathan Tasker, award-winning Australian singer-songwriter, speaker, and director of Art House, Nashville, Tennessee *“As someone who seeks to communicate the Word of God I’m so aware that songs have great power to teach. They reach into the heart and mobilize the will in such a profound way, and I’m therefore deeply grateful for the faithfulness to Scripture that characterizes Keith and Kristyn’s hymns. Songs bring us to the truth or cause us to sway from the truth and, therefore, we must celebrate those whose musical gifts are so wonderfully under the authority of Scripture.”*—Rico Tice, senior minister, All Souls Langham Place, founder, Christianity Explored Ministries, and author of *Honest Evangelism* and *Capturing God* *“In Sing! Keith and Kristyn describe some of the essential themes that have shaped and renewed our congregational singing here at The Village Chapel. Sing! informs, inspires, and encourages church leaders to consider how they can lead their congregations to a more robust worship of the living God. An essential read, an essential call, at an essential time.”*—Jim Thomas, pastor of The Village

Chapel, Nashville, Tennessee

“I know of no book that does what the Gettys book on congregation singing does. It is informative, convicting, and motivating and every pastor and serious Christian should read it.”

•Paul Tripp, author and president of Paul Tripp Ministries

“One of the church’s greatest treasures is congregational singing. When you join your voice to those of your brothers and sisters in praise of King Jesus, you are looking up to God as Redeemer and around to the people who have been redeemed. Sing! is a book of encouragement, warning, and guidance that will help ensure that the next generation does not lose the precious treasure of singing together.”

•Trevin Wax, author of This Is Our Time, Counterfeit Gospels, and Gospel-Centered Teaching

“As a follower of Jesus, husband, father, grandfather, and pastor, Sing! hits a sphere of our life that is not addressed enough: singing and our spiritual formation as people and especially in community. As a pastor, the latter is particularly meaningful (and helpful) to me.”

•Dean Weaver, lead pastor of Memorial Park and moderator of Evangelical Presbyterian Church

“Keith and Kristyn Getty have given their lives to demonstrate the power of doctrinally-faithful hymns old and new, inspiring a new generation of hymn-lovers. Now they have written a wonderful book to show us why and how this can be done. We enthusiastically commend it to you.”

•Robert and Nancy (DeMoss) Wolgemuth, authors/speakers who love to sing to the Lord

KEITH and KRISTYN GETTY occupy a unique space in the world of music as [pre-eminent] modern hymn writers and global ambassadors for the genre. Perhaps best-known for the modern hymn, “In Christ Alone” (written by Keith with Stuart Townend), the Gettys have helped reinvent the traditional hymn form, creating a catalog of songs teaching Christian doctrine and crossing musical genres, and invigorate the interest of a whole new generation of people in hymns. Their Sing! campaign is part of a movement to encourage church congregations in their singing. Keith and Kristyn live between Northern Ireland and Nashville with their daughters, Eliza, Charlotte, and Grace.

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