Grace Notes: growing our faith through music by Coni Ferland

<u>I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me</u> Afro-American Spiritual

Arranged by Wendell Whalum

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I'm gonna live so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna live so God can use me, Anywhere Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna work so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna pray so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna sing so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna live so God can use me, Anywhere Lord, anytime!

Psalm 119:33-34 "God, teach me lessons for living so I can stay the course. Give me insight so I can do what you tell me - my whole life one long, obedient response." The Message¹

Do you feel that God can use you? How? If you answered no, why do you feel that way? Why do you think the psalmist asked for insight to be able to follow God's call? Is this something you do? If you don't, why? If you do, describe what that is like for you.

I'm gonna work so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna work so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime!

Colossians 3:23 "Put your heart and soul into every activity you do, as though you are doing it for the Lord Himself and not merely for others."

The Passion Translation²

Have you ever considered that what you do is for God? Do you think this refers only to "church work"? Have you thought of doing your everyday activities for God? Your job? How might that mindset change how you look at those tasks? How you do those tasks?

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I'm gonna pray so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna pray so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime!

Luke 11:9 "And so it is with prayer – keep on asking and you will keep on getting.; keep on looking and you will keep on finding; knock and the door will be opened." The Living Bible³

Are you looking for ways God can use you? Prayer is the way to knock on the door of your future and ask how you can be of use to God. If you are looking for support, for guidance, keep asking. God needs you and the unique gifts you have. God is just waiting for you to reach out for that doorknob...

I'm gonna sing so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime! I'm gonna sing so God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime!

Colossians 3:16 "Remember what Christ taught you, and let His words enrich your lives and make you wise; teach them to each other and sing them in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing to the Lord with thankful hearts."

The Living Bible³

Ephesians 5:19b-20 "Sing songs from your heart to Christ. Sing praises over everything, any excuse for a song to God the Father in the name of your Master, Jesus Christ." The Message¹

Singing is a way to join together with others to express joy, to praise God, to invite God into our community. It's also a very personal way to reach out and connect with God. Take some time this week to think about the words you would sing to God. Write them down and sing them in your own way, knowing that Jesus' sacrifice is a sure reminder that you have a God that listens and cares, and assured that the Holy Spirit is here to help you sing even if you think you don't know how.

"But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as an example to show everyone how patient He is with even the worst sinners, so that others will realize that they, too, can have everlasting life."

1 Timothy 1:16 The Living Bible³

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