

The Master Musician

PT 3 IMPROVISATION | Pastor Jordan Biel | 03.21.21



What do I want them to KNOW? Know that God can and wants to improvise through you as you and Him become ONE in the world. The same Holy Spirit Jesus promised the disciples in John 16:8 that will lead them into all truth -is the same Holy Spirit for them.

What do I want them to FEEL Compelled and HUNGRY for God's Spirit/ in-dwelling.

What do I want them to DO Share their faith, pray for the sick and befriend lost people.

Thanks for joining us at Rock of Grace. We truly aim to be family here. This Family loves you the same on your worst day as much as we love you on your best day. That's what family does and God has brought us into His family and He has certainly loved us unconditionally! Let's follow our Father's example and love like that!

Let's pray as we enter this message.

PRAYER

2 weeks ago, we began a series using musical terms as a metaphor for the Kingdom of God. We said ...

The song is life. LIFE is meant to be lived for the glory of God. In other words, the SONG is all about JESUS.

LIFE is about knowing and glorifying JESUS.

Any venture or effort outside of that is like you're playing off key or out of pitch and it will leave you frustrated.

We began with

Theory (last week) What the Bible says about God being our Creator, man being His creation and choosing to rebel against His gift. Jesus, God's Son, came to die in our place and give us a NEW heart as we choose to follow Him. This makes you part of the people of GOD. This enables you to HEAR the song of Heaven and JOIN IN the song. We said the Bible is like the Sheet Music. It's unchanging and it is your source of what is TRUE. When you're stuck and lost in the song, don't go searching YouTube for advice, go to the Bible.

Harmony (last week) We said that as we follow Jesus together we learn to LOVE one another - to value one another - to LISTEN to one another. We learned the importance of nailing your part. Each of us have a part to play - designed by God, our days are written in His book. Our goal in life should be to live out what He wrote in His book for us. Last week we said "**Everyone is needed to the make the song complete**

This is SO true!

There are gifting that YOU have - they are melodies and melodic riffs that you are designed to play in this song of life and if you don't play it, something's missing!

I wonder how many lost people never hear the song about Jesus because too few Christians are playing their part.

Today, we continue this idea with something musicians call improvisation.

Improvisation - the official definition is this: CREATING SOMETHING WITHOUT PREPARATION usually in the arts or music.

This takes place in the arena of comedy, of dance and theatre... not just in music. In fact, the people who are GREAT at improv, usually end up getting the bigger roles because you're live on the set and something unexpected happens - something OFF SCRIPT, now you as the actor or musician, you have a choice - to freak out OR improvise.

The par can light above you falls, what do you do? Freak out? OR... improvise...

Improvisation: Creating the unexpected with God so that more people “hear the song” and love the Composer (God, the Father)

The Holy Spirit is incredible at improvisation. He can take any mess and make it a masterpiece.

FATHER GOD IS THE COMPOSER THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE CONDUCTOR & THE SONG IS ALL ABOUT JESUS

God, the HOLY SPIRIT, the creative, spontaneous part of God, wants to IMPROVISE through you.

MISSY CRISP took a Steel Fire Pit - made the image of Big Oak Meadows... gift. She nailed her part!

Some of you think His only job is to improve you.

If you think that the Holy Spirit's job is just to improve you - to make you “better” than you have a very inaccurate understanding of the book of Acts. We're going to look at it a lot today and in it we'll find that the Holy Spirit was at work in the lives of every believer, prompting their gifts to be used to bring more people to salvation. HEALINGS and MIRACLES, signs and WONDERS.

YES, He is improving you and shaping you into the person that thinks, feels and acts like Jesus but in addition to that, He wants to improvise through you!

He is the MASTER MUSICIAN! He doesn't just improve you, He improvises through you.

I want you to understand today how urgent it is that you receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and that you let Him improvise (create the unexpected) through you!

ILLUSTRATE: You can drive in first gear and get to your destination. If you wanted to drive from Kinsman Ohio, to Miami Beach Florida, you could get there in 1st gear. OORRRRR, or third fourth fifth gear ... =) Using the car the way it was designed!

You were designed by God to be filled with His Spirit for a SPIRIT-empowered, SUPER-natural living, passionate, NOT boring, life! Your life can bring LIFE to others IF you'll let God move. IF you'll posture yourself in prayer.

Have you ever seen a boring concert played by bored musicians? I have. It's the worst.

There's a lot of BORING songs out there played by BORING people and guess what the audience is feeling ... BORED.

BUT... when the right musicians get together, people who have been playing a long time, people who know how to lock in to the back beat, suddenly one person can begin to improvise and take the song to a whole new level, take the song to an unexpected place!

GOD wants to take your life - the song - to an unexpected place today - to begin to improvise through you to bring joy to others!

Your life isn't boring because God is boring. Your life might be boring because you aren't letting the Holy Spirit of GOD improvise and move in you and through you in unexpected ways! LOL

Turn to your neighbor and say "DON'T be BORING. HAVE FAITH!"

The SONG (LIFE) is all about bringing GLORY to the Lamb You can bring God greater glory when you study God's Word and PREPARE for the SPONTANEOUS.

Just like musicians prepare their brain for what their heart is going to feel.

There's a LEFT part of your brain that memorizes scales. There's a RIGHT part of your brain that LIGHTS UP on a scan when Jazz musicals play spontaneously. WHY? It's a different part of your brain - you being.

There are people with autism and other mental health inhibitors who have trouble speaking YET they can sing - WHY - it's a different part of the brain. GOD in his incredible creative genius felt like making that different. Why? Just cause. Just cause he can!

You can bring God greater GLORY if you'll memorize the theory" the "sheet music" the WORD of GOD, get in prayer and get the heart of GOD alone Just GOD and his instrument Just GOD and you and studying THEN when you're out and about His Spirit will call up a certain Scripture when it's needed.

HS will empower you to bring the HEART of JESUS to lost people. They need to hear the song like you hear the song!

WHY Should you let the Holy Spirit improvise through you? WHY should you pray for someone who is clearly sick or in pain?

BECAUSE JESUS IS WORTHY!

The Son of God became a son of man to make the sons of man, sons of GOD and that doesn't ONLY mean you - that means every lost man and woman going in and out of work in Cortland, in Vienna, in Warren, in Youngstown, in Greenville, the waiters, the bank teller, the barista, THEY NEED JESUS!

THEY need to hear the song and figure out what LIFE is all about!

YOU need to be UNITED with JESUS through the SPIRIT'S POWER so that HE can improvise using YOUR tongue!

To be who God intends you to be, to improvise through you, you need not only to be saved by Jesus blood, but filled with Jesus' Spirit!

When you accept Jesus as savior, John 14 makes it clear that, yes the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God, comes into you when you receive Jesus as Savior. BUT, but he wants to baptize you in the Holy Spirit so that the Holy Spirit comes UPON you!

Acts 4-8 makes it clear also...

You can be baptized in Jesus but not be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

You can be singing the song yet never find the power and joy of improvisation.

Acts 19 speaks of this secondary experience

Acts 19 And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. ² And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³ And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism."

⁴ And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all.

⁸ And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹ But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

11 And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them

Do you want to see MIRACLES in your life?!

OR... do you just want to play the same song, the same way, with the same chords at the same volume?

LET GOD'S SPIRIT, the CONDUCTOR, fill you and guide you with supernatural knowledge from heaven so you can prophesy and encourage, serve and witness, preach the Gospel, serve and cook meals and smile and lend a hand, and open your home, draw and paint, sing and dance, let the HOLY SPIRIT improvise in you!

The entire book of Acts you find Paul and Apollos and Aquilla and Pricilla and all theses men and women being led by the Spirit to preach, sometimes to stay a while in a city, sometimes to build their tent business more and integrate with culture, sometimes they'd only stay one night - they were LED by the SPIRIT spontaneously from town to town.

This began when the HOLY SPIRIT was poured out just like Jesus promised

2 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3** And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The people nearby thought these guys were drunk! Skip to vs 14

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. **15** For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. **16** But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

- 17** " 'And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters **shall prophesy**,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
18 even on my male servants **and female** servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall **prophesy**.
19 And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,

When the Prayer Team comes up later, I want you to know, they're not weird. They're spirit-filled but they're not weird.

They're not going to rub your ears and spit on you. LOL. They will touch your should and if they touch your head, they'll ask you first if that's ok.

They will be simply asking God to fill you with the promised Holy Spirit so that you can begin to improvise like never before, finding the JOY in the song!

Eph 2:10 tells us that you were given specific gifts from God, anointing, for the purpose of serving God.

We get a list of these in Romans 12 and 1 Cor 12

I do want to give one other thought - just bc you don't have gift of helps doesn't mean you can't help. Just bc you don't have admin gift doesn't mean you can administrate obviously.

Prophetic Tongues are different for whole church. Gods Word says that He wants things done, "In decency and in order" and thank goodness we have that at Rock of Grace. There's only been a few times over the years when something didn't seem right or "in order" and that's when my dad or myself would step in and lovingly correct the situation and explain a bit - never to embarrass the person but only to bring order and therefore peace back into the room.

Ask. What is Gods number one obsession?

Look at John 17: That's UNITY between God and Man. That's he's one with us and we're one with Him. He wants ALL HIS CHILDREN TO BE AWAKENED - every ORPHAN to be turned into a SON or DAUGHTER!

The kingdom has come yet it is not yet.

If you want to improvise with the Holy Spirit, prayer is the practice you're missing.

The key for great musicians who can improvise and play like they do, is practice. They practiced every scale, every variation, every chord over and over, spending time at their instrument.

The key for you to let God improvise through you is the practice of prayer.

Prayer is key. Prayer is agreement with what God has done wants to do and will do.

Prayer aligns us with God. AND those we pray for.

If Jesus knew He needed to pray why in the world do we think we don't need to?

Prayer. Pray the word. Repeat back to God his promises!

Establish out loud

Prayer in tongues is praying what He wants even though you don't know them.

It brings the activation of God unto your life. It brings your life into agreement with Gods will.

1 Cor 14:14

The HS prays through us thing we need but don't net understand.

Tell a story to illustrate this. Keep it personal. Human.

Spiritual Gifts / Prophecy

1 Corinthians 14:20-40

“Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature. In the Law it is written, “By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord.” Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign not for unbelievers but for believers.

If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds? But if all prophecy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.

What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. (Sounds like last weeks message - everyone has a part to play in the song)

If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. For you can all prophecy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged. For God is not a God of confusion but of peace. Skip to Vs 28 So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But all things should be done decently and in order.”

1 Corinthians 14:20-28, 30-31, 33-40 ESV

<https://www.bible.com/59/1co.14.20-28,30-31,33-40.esv>

Prophecy is one of the clearest signs of “improvisation” that God wants to do in you.

*Yes. I know this gift has been abused. But does that mean we throw it out? NO!
It's POWERFUL!*

Justin Boyles prophesied to me last Sunday night. It felt like a ROCKET hit my soul. It was such an encouragement. I went back and listened to it and AGAIN God's Words through Justin encouraged me, strengthened me, told me to “KEEP GOING”

Prophecy builds up someone in a peculiar way - adding faith to their life. Prophecy is the unexpected spirit-led encouragement from a believer to someone else aiming to align them with God's plan for their life. Prophecy confronts, comforts, encourages or confirms.

You gotta really love people and invite them over for dinner and get their story!
Be a FRIEND to them.

HEAR their STORY.

FIND OUT what makes them tick - what makes them sad - what makes them happy - this is what it means to love someone.

If you say “I don’t want to get out of my comfort zone with my neighbor or my co-worker.” I just want to talk for 1.5 minutes about the weather and the dogs...”
Let me give you a quote from a book called Neighborly Love

“If we are going to embrace neighborly love, we will have to take the initiative to move out of the comfort zone of our cultural and geographical insularity and get to know our neighbors as people who, like us, have a unique history, have felt the pain of heartache, harbor unfulfilled dreams, and possess underutilized talents and future aspirations.”

We are transforming Trumbull County and this whole region for that matter FOR JESUS and if we’re going to do that, we NEED YOU to let the Holy Spirit improvise through you!

There’s a gift you have that is lying dormant. There’s a prophetic anointing on some of your lives! And you’ve never prophesied.

There’s an administration gift on some of you and we need you in the Warren Campus this fall!

There’s a musical gift in some of you and we NEED you this fall in the Warren Campus. There’s a gift of helps - you’re simply handy and you love to work with your hands - we NEED YOU this fall as we open Warren Campus.

Are you letting the HOLY SPIRIT improvise through you yet?

We need you to help us re-launch Cortland Campus.

Neuschlers, Rosenbergers, Jeremiah and Abby and the Marc and Robin See, Gwin, Smiths... are all serving but we need a few more couples who live in Cortland to say “Yes” to the Lord and REACH LOST PEOPLE IN CORTLAND!

The song (life) is all about bringing glory to the Lamb of God, JESUS. Learn to work together with others and “harmonize” to bring more people to salvation!

- ***Keep in Sync with the Heart-BEAT of God.*** The Holy Spirit is like the **Metronome.** *Play a click on the sound system.* **Spirit-Inspired Words of the Bible: Go to the Bible and Apply what it says about unity.** **Spirit-Inspired Grace: God gives more grace to us by sending the Holy Spirit bring LIFE to us** - to teach us how to follow Jesus and give grace to others - the same grace we received.

Let’s go back to the Book of Acts for a moment. Listen how this spontaneous moment happened.

ACTS CHAPTER 3

**Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.
2 And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the**

temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple.
3 Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms.

4 And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." 5 And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. 6 But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" 7 And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.

8 And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God, 10 and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Peter and John didn't expect to be asked for money. And they probably didn't expect God's voice inside them to say "pray for him to be healed." But they RESPONDED to the prompting. The Holy Spirit improvised in them that day!

Stop focusing what you don't have and start focusing on what you DO have. You have the POWER of JESUS and the NAME of JESUS to give people who are hurting!

- ***It's All About The Song to The Lamb*** The Holy Spirit inspires Unity in the Mission to Give the Gospel to Lost People The SONG (LIFE) is meant to bring glory to the Lamb. What does that most? Seeing lost people saved! *May the Lamb that was slain receive the reward for all He's done for us. May our God who gave His Son for us be praised forevermore! People in tune with the Spirit care more about showing compassion than comparison. We said in our Mind of Christ series in October how EASY it is to fall into the trap of Comparison. Don't let it happen to you! Don't step into the Bait of Satan!*
- **Spirit-Inspired Focus on the Eternal Family of God - We will rise to new life in Jesus' Heaven.** We who've put our trust in Jesus to save us, we who have continued in the faith, keeping unity with the brothers and sisters in Christ, will be given new bodies like that of Jesus when our mortal bodies die or when we are raptured (taken up in an instant by Jesus) to Heaven.

When you improvise on an instrument, you are using your prepared abilities to do something unprepared.

This is RISKY. This will make you very nervous the first few (or hundred) times you do this.

BUT, in TIME, you will learn to improvise easily and almost naturally as you become ONE with the song as you become ONE with the band. And just like a principle we said last week, your goal is to compliment not complicate the song.

If someone else is improvising, you are not!
This comes back to valuing everyone in the band/orchestra.

Compliment, not complicate the song.

The producer/conductor asks himself when he hears the band playing... “Is this what the song is asking for?”

THE SON OF GOD BECAME A SON OF MAN TO MAKE THE SONS OF MEN, SONS OF GOD.
ARE YOU CONTRIBUTING TO THAT END - TO PEOPLE COMING TO KNOW JESUS?

Keep in Sync with the Heart-BEAT of God.

The Holy Spirit is like the Metronome. You'll hear it when you're off.

He'll bring you back to the center of God's heart. The “click” is about knowing the ways of God, not just the words of God. The words of God apart from knowing the ways of God is dangerous (pharisees). Know His heart. Only happens by practice/time spent. *Play a click on the sound system with a pleasant sounding shaker.* Spirit-Inspired Words of the Bible: Go to the Bible and Apply what it says about unity.

Spirit-Inspired Grace: God gives more grace to us by sending the Holy Spirit bring LIFE to us
- to teach us how to follow Jesus and give grace to others - the same grace we received.

When you're making decisions in life, ask yourself... “Does this line up with God's heart?”

When someone is trying to bring you down in to their mess - slandering others, gossip, happens all the time right? Ask yourself ... “Does this sound like the heart beat of God?” OR am I way off the click right now?

You want to keep in sync with the heartbeat of Heaven?

You see someone who's sick? You pray for them. You invite GOD to enter EARTH and remove that persons physical pain - that's the HEARTBEAT of heaven.

The Conductor (HOLY SPIRIT) will cause you at times to play softer or even STOP playing. Why? So all the parts are enjoyed.

Sometimes you just STOP and START listing other person's stories.

GOD WANTS A FAMILY

That family got a new beginning with Abraham & receive a new beginning when Christ returns.

Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand

to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”⁹ So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

[*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Ga 3:6–9). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Speaking of the Bible being our source of truth, the Bible tells us that just like Noah rescued his family by bringing them into the ark before the flood came, GOD rescued his family by bringing them to the cross - to save you from certain death.

The earth itself was baptized. This was a foreshadowing of what would take place in the hearts of all people who put their trust in Jesus, the son of God. The earth was baptized in water.

YOU are baptized with the water of God’s Word (sometimes with literal water too to illustrate it)

And YOU are made new, given a NEW start at a NEW life, a life with GOD! WOW!

Father God is the Composer. The Holy Spirit is the Conductor

“We may substitute a thousand things for the Holy Ghost and delude ourselves by fancying that these substitutes are life-giving forces, but then we will never know the power and life of pentecost.” EM Bounds in his book Prayer and Revival

Ga 3:22–4:7

²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. ²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

4 I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, **so that we might receive adoption as sons.** ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

You and I are made to be CHILDREN OF GOD, adopted by a Loving Father, who sing praises to our brother, JESUS! In our reception of grace, we gladly give grace to others. We not only do so when prompted, we SEEK THEM OUT. WE LOOK FOR POTENTIAL CHILDREN.

Romans 8: 14- 25

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,

groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

SALVATION CALL - PRAYER TEAM ON SIDES OF SANCTUARY