

Use “The Scene” to introduce “With a Song” the High School Sunday school lesson for July 23, 2017. The lesson is found on page 49 of *High School Teacher* by Standard Publishing.



In the latest use of music as motivation, *Hamilton* musical creator and star Lin-Manuel Miranda has challenged other celebrities (and anyone else) to sing their versions of their favorite songs from the musical as part of the #Ham4all challenge. The gist of the challenge is that it raises awareness of Miranda’s quest to have money donated for the Immigrants: We Get the Jobs Done Coalition—a donation of ten dollars also gets the donor a chance to win tickets to the musical’s opening in Los Angeles and the opportunity to meet the writer/composer himself.

This is not the first time celebrities have used music to move people not only emotionally but as a way to raise funds for a cause. From “Do They Know It’s Christmas?” created by Band Aid in 1984 to “We are the World,” released in 1985 to raise money for people starving in Africa, and then again recorded in 2010 to send help to those affected by the devastating earthquake in Haiti—millions upon millions of dollars have been raised through the sales of songs to benefit various needy organizations.

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:

What is your favorite example of music created to raise money for a cause?

Why do you think music is an effective way to raise money for good causes?

What is it about music that causes such a powerful response in people?

We express our emotions in a variety of ways. One way we can do that is through music. Today we’re going to look at the ways people in the Bible used music to express themselves.