

ENGAGE.

FAITH.

MUSIC.

FIVE QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN YOU HEAR A SONG

1. WHAT IS THE MOOD OF THE SONG?

Music can change how we feel. Before a song, we might feel sad but hearing it may make us feel happier. Knowing how a song changes our emotions helps us understand when the song may be helpful or harmful.

2. WHAT PART OF THE SONG IS STUCK IN YOUR MEMORY?

A well-written song leaves us with a melody or lyric looping in our memory. Our life experiences can shape which part of a song impacts us the most and we learn more about ourselves and the song if we ask why.

3. WHY DO YOU THINK THE ARTIST WROTE THE SONG?

Artists are motivated to write music for a variety of reasons including money and fame. They may also want to share an idea, process their emotions, and even encourage fans who face similar life experiences as the artist. Knowing what the artist hopes to accomplish with their song helps shape our understanding of the song.

4. HOW ARE OTHERS AROUND ME EXPERIENCING THE SONG?

Certain songs can divide people based on gender, sexuality, race, class, or religion. People around us may feel uncomfortable when they hear the song and some may even feel silenced and unsafe. Seeing how the song impacts our entire community helps us decide how to respond.

5. HOW DOES THE BIBLE TALK ABOUT THE THEME OF THE SONG?

Most songs explore a theme or topic and we benefit when we compare a song's theme with verses or stories from the Bible. Seeing how a song agrees or disagrees with a Biblical theme is valuable information during the discernment process.

