

# SARAH BAUER: Daring TO BE Joyful!

Sarah Bauer is a young woman with a clear and simple mission: joy. She strives to live her life joyfully, and she wants to spread that joy through her music.

“My gift and my call are to share joy”, she says. “With God, life is so much richer, so much more fulfilling.”

This theme is certainly evident in her two CDs, *Delighting in Dreams* and *Lead Me Home*.

“The theme of my first album was ‘delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.’ If you let go, He will take care of it. Delight yourself, *delight* - not just surrender, but surrender and be joyful about it.”

Her second album, *Lead Me Home*, continues to explore this theme. The title cut draws upon a very familiar character: Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*. Anyone who has seen *The Wizard of Oz* knows that the first twenty minutes of the movie, when Dorothy was home in Kansas, was filmed in black and white, and was rather dreary. But when she was whisked away by the tornado and deposited in the Land of Oz, suddenly the world became alive with color!

Sarah explains it this way: “In my song, ‘Lead Me Home,’ life with God is in Technicolor. It doesn’t mean it’s always going to be fun, life’s rough sometimes. But it’s definitely more vivid, more passionate.”

Sarah is a confirmed dreamer and has dreamed all her life of being a singer.

“I have been singing my whole life since I was 3. I’d do little concerts for my family on the fireplace. I have always loved to sing,” she says.

She even aspired to be on Broadway at one time. But following one’s dreams is not always a straight and easy path. She had other ideas originally.

“I really wanted to get married and have a family,” she says. “My plan was that by my senior year in college, I would have an engagement ring and get married. But by my senior year I didn’t have a boyfriend and I didn’t have an engagement ring, so I wasn’t getting married. I’m still young so there’s time. I had majored in English as a fall-back plan, but the idea of teaching *Pride and Prejudice* every year for the rest of my life really made me feel very stifled. I wanted to pursue my dreams and be creative and do what I love. I decided one day to record my CD and make this happen. God gave me a vision of how this was possible and what I could do to make it happen. He showed me how to use my faith and my gifts in a lot of ways.”

Sarah’s faith life changed as she became a teenager and it was then that she decided to combine her love of music with her faith in God.

“When I was 16, my faith became really, really important to me. I wanted to sing about what mattered most. God really helped me put a lot of passion into my music. This has been with me for a very long time. God knows our dreams and our deepest desires, often before we do.” Anyone pursuing their dream knows that there are many obstacles to face along the way. But Sarah doesn’t let that daunt her.

“I am more joyful when I am surrendering. Even though I have faced obstacles, I know

that at the end of the day, this is what God wants me to do. By doing this I am becoming the most like myself, I am becoming who God wants me to be. There’s always going to be obstacles, it’s always going to be difficult to surrender. But my faith and my joy come from knowing that.”

Sarah’s joyful living is very evident in her performances, her songs, and the bright smile that she greets each person with. She truly believes that dreams really can come true if we surrender to God and allow Him to mold us. In these dark and troubled times in our world, Sarah Bauer’s dreams and messages of joy are welcome, and needed.

Visit Sarah’s website at [www.sarahbauer.com](http://www.sarahbauer.com). †



Sarah had the opportunity this past summer to share her joy-filled message with audiences at World Youth Day 2005 in Germany.