

God's Orchestra



Do you have a **favourite musical instrument**? Perhaps you play one, or simply appreciate good music. That's fine too! Even if you can't read music or play an instrument, you can learn some **interesting things** from them and how they work – individually and together.

An orchestra has different families of instruments that are arranged in groups: string, brass, woodwinds, and percussion. Also, there can be standalone instruments like the piano or the concert harp. Each instrument or group has its **special place**.

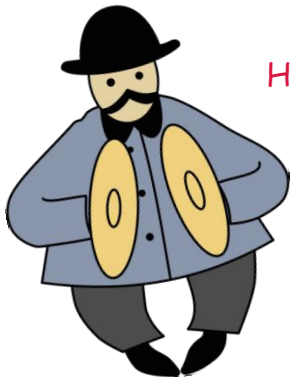
A full-size orchestra is sometimes called a **Symphony Orchestra** or **Philharmonic Orchestra**. These can have a hundred players or more. Smaller concert or chamber orchestras would have many fewer musicians.

Orchestras are usually led by a **conductor** who directs the whole performance. Without the conductor, the orchestra might just sound like a mishmash of sounds without harmony and beauty! The leader of the First Violin section also helps to lead the musicians. He or she is commonly called the **concertmaster**.

When we dedicate our lives to the **Lord Jesus Christ**, He becomes our **Conductor**. He brings us into His family and makes each of us an 'instrument' of His 'orchestra'.



Jesus tunes God's Orchestra to **make the most** of each instrument, creating an entire symphony with us. *For example...*



He might make you like the **Harp** that soothes and comforts with soft words to quiet and calm others.

Or He might tune you to be more like the **Cymbals** which produce a sharp warning to others to watch out for trouble ahead!

You might be the **Grand Piano** which reveals stirring stories of God's love.

Some of us may be like the **Triangle**, an instrument which seems to have little musical function and appears to require no skill to play. But in the hand of an expert, the triangle produces a **gentle crisp tinkle** powerful enough to call others into the Lord's presence.



God might even allow you to serve as **First Violin** — the **Concertmaster** —helping Him to organize His work in your town or country.

Well, I'm sure you get the picture!

The Lord uses everyone, separately and together. He uses people who are **quiet & shy**, and He uses those who are **more vocal**. He uses folks who speak **soft encouragement**, and He uses those who **sound loud warnings**.

In the orchestra, some instruments seem to play most of the time, while others are heard only now and then. God might call you to do many things



for Him, or maybe to do just a few. But — He always calls you to *live* for Him. For instance, it might not seem like you're doing much by saying "thank you" or "how can I help you" to people, but those little things are **music to God's ears**.

So... Get ready to be part of the Lord's Orchestra. Let the concert begin!

"For just as each of us has **one body with many members**, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." — *Romans 12: 4-8*