

In 1984 I was ‘baptized in the Holy Spirit’. At the time, *Rush* was my favorite band. A short time afterwards, I was invited to come and listen to this “new music” by a guy named John Michael Talbot. I never again listened to *Rush*! Your music has had such a profound influence on my life – specifically the album *For The Bride*. So many times would I listen to that album in its entirety and allow the Lord to ‘woo’ me.

I received a great gift from the Lord four years later: I picked up a guitar and began playing praise and worship songs! Simple chords at first, and more complex over time. Then, six months later, another gift: a song – this happened after receiving Holy Communion. It was to be the first of very many songs. Recordings, choirs, nursing home visits, and so on. God has used me abundantly to spread His blessings.

Then came the fall from grace in ’94 with the internet porn addiction. I couldn’t stop! And, in the many years thereafter, it got even worse still. I won’t go into the details.

That brings me to last Wednesday (March 3). I had been sick and in bed with the flu. When I awoke that morning, I didn’t know if I was alive or dead, whether I should get up or roll over and go back to sleep. For some reason I decided to say: “Hey Siri. Play me a song.” What I heard was “Arise, my bride, my Beloved!” (Canticle of the Groom)

I wept! My Lord sang those words TO ME! No better song could have come than that one. And I did arise. And I did go to Confession. And I did sit down with my 12-Step sponsor and renew my commitment to purity and chastity. And I knew I had to contact you and tell you that God spoke to ME, and that He chose to do so through the words of one of YOUR songs. God reminded me of “the heights from which I have fallen” from those glory days in 1984 to recent days and how your music is the ‘portal’ through which I gain access to the ‘chamber’ of the Bridegroom.

Thank you!
Greg