

Gospel Music Trivia Questions

Gospel Origin and History

1. Who was the father of black gospel music?
2. The first published use of the term “Gospel Song” happened in 1874 in a songbook by what American composer?
3. Modern gospel music began in 1930 when what church denomination publicly endorsed the genre?
4. The Gospel Music Association sponsors annual awards for outstanding achievement in Christian music. What is the name of those awards?
5. Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Mahalia Jackson were raised in or influenced by what church movement?
6. What famous R&B artist was criticized for secularizing gospel music?
7. What type of gospel music is sometimes called “quartet music” due to the fact much of it is sung by male quartets?
8. Which of the following is not a style of gospel music: Bluegrass Gospel, Serial Gospel, or Celtic Gospel?
9. Who was known as the “Queen of Gospel” and described by Harry Belafonte as “the single most powerful black woman in the U.S.?”
10. *Follow the Drinking Gourd*, while not strictly a gospel song, is part of early spiritual history primarily because its lyrics suggest a path to freedom for escaped slaves. Who is credited with writing this song?

Gospel Musicians

1. What well-known female Christian singer is widely considered the “crossover pioneer” in making the transition from gospel to pop and back again?
2. Which Christian band/artist has the most Dove Awards?
3. What world famous secular rock band began by singing Christian music?
4. *A New Hallelujah* won a Dove Award in 2009 and featured the African Children’s Choir as backup. Who is the soloist?
5. Who is the only solo performer to be inducted into the Rock and Roll, Country and Gospel Halls of Fame?
6. In season one of *The Wire* what gospel group’s version of Tom Waits’ *Way Down in the Hole* was used as the theme song?
7. Which of the Neville Brothers is known for his solo gospel singing?
8. What gospel group did the Rolling Stones convince to record their song *Salt of the Earth* in 1969?
9. What husband and wife team were named Christian Songwriters of the Century by ASCAP?
10. As a member of the Billy Graham Crusade for many years, this Canadian-born bass-baritone was best known for his rendition of *How Great Thou Art*.

Gospel Songs

1. What is the name of the number one best-selling black gospel song of all time?
2. Who is the subject of CeCe Winans' *Alabaster Box*?
3. "Go ahead drive the nails in my hands, Laugh at me where you stand" are the first two lines of what Dove award winning song?
4. What Dottie Rambo song, recorded by the Isaacs, won the Dove Award for Bluegrass Recorded Song of the Year in 2012, four years after she died?
5. One of the most famous call and response gospel songs of all time contains the line "If you get there before I do." What's the name of the song?
6. What popular traditional gospel song was written by a slave ship's captain and was originally played only on the black keys of the piano?
7. What well-known gospel tune became the anthem of the civil rights movement in the 1960s?
8. "____ _ _____, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee" make up the first two lines of this well-known gospel hymn. What are the first three words (which are also the title)?
9. Named the number one greatest song in Christian music by *CCM Magazine* in 2006, this inspirational anthem by Rich Mullins continues to be performed by top gospel artists all over the world today.
10. This gospel song from Marvin Gaye's 1971 album *What's Goin' On* encourages people to put aside hate and live with love.