

A Pandora Religion

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Matthew 11:29 (KJV) Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;

John 14:26-27 (MSG) The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send at my request, will make everything plain to you. He will remind you of all the things I have told you. I'm leaving you well and whole. That's my parting gift to you.

Many of you may have heard of the internet radio service called Pandora Radio.

It is a music streaming and automated music recommendation service powered by the Music Genome Project. So let me take just a moment to explain the genome (jē, nōm/) project.

Many of you have heard of music having various genres, such as Pop, Country, Jazz, R&B, Hip-Hop, Classical and so on. Well the Music Genome Project goes beyond the basic 15 genres and captures over 450 attributes and qualities such as the melody, harmony, rhythm, form, composition and lyrics.

And the way Pandora works, is that, you tell it just one song that you like and after it plays that song, Pandora begins to guess at what other songs you might want to hear based on that song's genetic make-up.

If you like the song, you can provide instant feedback and give it a thumbs up and if you dislike the song you give it a thumbs down. Well, over time of all the thumbs ups and downs Pandora just knows what you like. The more you engage, the more it just knows.

Well I said all of that to say that learning of God is that way. We all make mistakes in what pleases God, but the more we engage, in his word, in prayer and praise, the more feedback He gives us. Over time we just know what is pleasing to Him.

I have been listening to Pandora for over 10 years. During the early years, I took the time to let the system know when I did or did not like a song. The more I engaged, the less mistakes they made. Today, I can listen to the station for hours before hearing something that is displeasing to me. The genre doesn't even matter. It doesn't matter if I am listening to Jazz, R&B, Gospel, Country Christian, or Pop. The system knows what type of Jazz I prefer, it knows what type of Country songs I prefer based on the other 450 attributes of a song. It knows what type of Christian music I like and dislike. Well, in everything we do, God the Holy Spirit gives us the thumbs up or the thumbs down and over time, we **should** just know what kind of prayer pleases God.

- Over time we **should** just know what kind of praises pleases God.
- We just know what real true genuine praise looks like.
- We **should** just know what kind of living pleases God.
- We should know if he is giving us the thumbs up on a certain anger, attitude, or behavior.
- We should know what Christian service he is calling us to do. Or if it's time to move membership, break fellowship with a co-worker or even move to another city.

But the process is not fully automatic. Just as you can ignore the opportunity to engage in Pandora, you can ignore the nudging of the Holy Spirit and over time actually become numb to its guidance. So I urge you to start engaging in God's feedback process. Make the adjustments in the fruit of the Spirit such as love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. And I declare God who is the true giver of all gifts (pan – doron) will began streaming live blessings that will be like music to your ears.