



Pop goes CATHOLICISM Resource Sheet

"Not Afraid" Eminem

Media Information

Album: Recovery
[Edited Version]
Release Date: June 21, 2010
Label: Aftermath
Length: 4:08

Key Lyrics

Disclaimer: Eminem's lyrics contain a LOT of profanity, much of which is still plain even in the edited (bleeped) version

I'm not afraid to take a stand /
Everybody come take my hand /
We'll walk this road together,
through the storm /
Whatever weather, cold or warm /
Just let you know that, you're not
alone / Holla if you feel that
you've been down the same road

And I just can't keep living this
way / So starting today, I'm
breaking out of this cage / I'm
standing up, Imma face my
demons / I'm manning up, Imma
hold my ground / I've had
enough, now I'm so fed up /
Time to put my life back together
right now

Faith Connection

Eminem spent most of his rapping career spewing misogyny, violence, and prejudice. And yet, after a lengthy hiatus from music to get into recovery for an addiction, his latest album, aptly titled *Recovery*, seems to show signs of a conversion to less extreme expression. This song's even positive, calling everyone to come together to overcome adversity in order to live up to responsibility (for Eminem as a recording artist and father). The idea that a person can emerge from darkness, abandon fear, and embrace positive responsibility connects very well with our faith: conversion is the first step toward reconciliation, a process of reunion with each other and with God, ultimately in salvation. Just as Eminem owns up to his failings and need to be better, so God calls us to recognize our sinfulness and strive for holiness, a lofty word for a simple concept: responsibly living up to our potential, which this song is all about.

Discussion Questions

1. Are you afraid to take a stand for what's right? If so, why? If not, have you taken it?
2. Who walks with you "through the storm"?
3. How well do you face your own demons?
4. What would help you to admit your failings and take responsibility for them?
5. How do you feel about God's forgiveness of your failures? Do you have difficulty with it?

Related

Scripture:

Romans 8:38-39
Matthew 9:9-13

Catechism:

#1989
#166

