

Open My Eyes That I May See Clara Scott 1895

If you'd like to hear the song: <https://youtu.be/GDceaG7kFOA>

Open my eyes that I may see, glimpse of truth Thou hast for me
Place in my hands the wonderful key, that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God they will to see
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God they will to see
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Open my mouth that and let me bear, gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare, love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God they will to see
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

When you read through the song, you can see Clara Scott's progression from eyes to ears to mouth to heart. Why do you think she mentions each of these organs? What part do each of them play in the development of faith? Do you think the order matters? Why? Is there one organ that is more important in your personal faith journey? Describe why.

“Open my eyes that I may see, glimpse of truth Thou hast for me
Place in my hands the wonderful key, that shall unclasp and set me free.”

Psalm 119:18 *“Open my eyes so that I can see all the wonderful things of Your teachings.”*
Easy-to-Read Version¹

John 8:31b-32 *“Jesus said to them, ‘You are truly My disciples if you live as I tell you to, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”*
The Living Bible²

Why do we need open eyes to see God's truth? What do closed eyes symbolize to you? In what ways is the truth a key to set you free? Why is important that it be God's truth? What happens if we look for truth elsewhere? Could that “truth” interfere with God's truth? How?

“Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.”

Colossians 1:9 *“Since the day we got this good news about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We ask: Father, may they clearly know Your will and achieve the height and depth of spiritual wisdom and understanding.”*
The Voice Bible³

Proverbs 15:31 *“Accepting constructive criticism opens your heart to the path of life, making you right at home among the wise.”*
The Passion Translation⁴

Psalm 119:11 *“I have thought much about Your words and stored them in my heart so that they could hold me back from sin.”*
The Living Bible²

Why do you think Clara Scott makes a point of speaking to finding truth a second time?

How can “*constructive criticism*” help you in finding God’s truth? Could that be the “voices of truth” God sends?

How do you deal with criticism – constructive and non-constructive?

What “false” things hold you? Could storing God’s truth in your heart, as the psalmist says in Psalm 119:11, help those false things “disappear”? How might you make that work in your life?

“Open my mouth that and let me bear, gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare, love with Thy children thus to share.”

Psalm 51:15 *“O Lord, pry open my lips that this mouth will sing joyfully of Your greatness.”*
The Voice Bible³

Exodus 4:12 *“Now go! I’ll help you speak, and I’ll teach you what to say.”*

Ephesians 4:15a *“God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love – like Christ in everything.”*
The Message⁵

1 John 3:18 *“My dear children, let’s not just talk about love; let’s practice real love.”* The Message⁵

Can you relate to the psalmist, who asked God to “pry open” his lips? Perhaps Moses is someone you can relate to – Moses stuttered and felt God couldn’t possibly use him to rescue the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. But in Exodus we see God’s answer; God would help Moses speak, and tell him what to say. If God would help Moses in such a huge undertaking, won’t God help us speak out as well?

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul reminds us that God wants us to know the whole truth and speak it in love. John reminds us that to not just talk about love but to practice it. Make a list of ways you can speak to the truth of God’s love. If you need help speaking, use Psalm 51:15 as a prayer. If you need encouragement to act, use 1 John 3:18 as a prayer. Even if speaking and acting in love are not a struggle for you, offer your words and actions to God so that you will speak and act in God’s truth.

“Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God they will to see
Open my eyes, ears, mouth, heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Psalm 119:114 “You’re my place of quiet retreat; I wait for Your word to renew me.” The Message⁵

Luke 1:78-79 “Through the heartfelt mercies of our God, God’s Sunrise will break in upon us, shining on those in darkness, those sitting in the shadow of death, then showing us the way, one foot at a time, down the path of peace.”
The Message⁵

The psalmist reminds us that God is our place of “quiet retreat”, where we can renew ourselves. Why do you think quiet is enough to the whole process that Clara Scott mentions silence four times? Is silence hard for you? Why? Do you try to avoid it? How could silence make it easier to see and hear and read God’s truth? How about quietness in your heart? Luke reminds us that Jesus is the light Jesus is the light that illuminates our darkness. Can you allow Jesus to do that for you? How might it feel? Sit with the idea a while, and invite Jesus in to light your heart and your path...

“I waited, and waited, and waited for God. At last He looked;
finally He listened. He lifted me out of the ditch, pulled me from deep mud.
He stood me on a solid rock to make sure I wouldn’t slip. He taught me
how to sing the latest God-song, a praise-song to our God. More and
more people are seeing this; they enter the mystery, abandoning
themselves to God.” Psalm 40:1-3 The Message⁵

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