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COMPLIMENTARY

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*Smile into
the New Year*

*The Minister
of Groove*



Celebrating 11 Years of Good News



ZORO

The Minister of Groove

"God gave me the ability to have rhythm and I just cooperated with Him," explains world renowned drummer Zoro who has toured and recorded with the likes of Lenny Kravitz, Bobby Brown, Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons- just to name a few. For more than 25 years he has simply been known as Zoro, a name he believes defines him. "It's tied to the Spanish heritage of my mother," says Zoro, "but it is also tied to my heart's desire...to fight for the underdog."

Foundation of Faith

Zoro especially cares for the fatherless in Nashville. "Out of not having a father, I have been given a heart of a father. God called me to the fatherless generation." Zoro says his mother filled the gap for him and his six brothers and sisters. "She gave to us something far greater than herself. She taught us to put our hope and trust in the Lord Jesus for all the trials and tribulations of our life."

Zoro adds he also benefitted from the Big Brothers Big Sisters program as well as mentors in the church community. "God sent me people to water me," he explains.



Faith & Community

Zoro has served as an Instructor of Music (Percussion) at Belmont University in Nashville for the past three years. Belmont faculty describe Zoro as "real, relevant, relatable, and connects with all people. He has the heart of a true teacher and is motivated to serve and inspire his audience with all that he has." Through his students, Zoro recognized a critical need for mentoring young adults. "I'm a professor of drumming, but with all of my students it turns into spiritual mentoring with them. I have sowed a lot of seed on different levels."



Zoro's call to minister to young adults led to the founding of Zoro International Ministries (ZIM) in 2010. "I've always connected with the 18 to 29 year age. God wired me for them and they view me as a cool rock and roll guy," explains Zoro. "I see a void in this age group. Many of them are not in a youth group anymore. I feel this is the age group that is floundering."

ZIM teaches Biblically based achievement skills, nurtures purpose and offers inspiration to young adults. The first ZIM program is a nine week, young adult Bible study entitled, "Living Your Destiny." "I'm just a drill sergeant leading these young adults in battle," says Zoro who walked his first group through the study last year at his home and at his church, Generations Church in Cool Springs. "Zoro challenged us to explore our talents, experiences, and lives in order to understand the unique callings God has placed in each of our lives," explains one of the 100 students who attended the first ZIM study adding, "By the end of the program, I felt so much more equipped for the long journey God has prepared for me!" Zoro will begin a new nine week study this month. "I want to teach young adults to live Christ centered lives that flourish and make the biggest impact for Him during their lives." Zoro adds he hopes to share the "Living Your Destiny" message with millions of young people through an on-line curriculum and conferences. "I want to raise up a generation of people who lead excellent lives- spiritual, personal, and vocational. I want to raise up Daniels and Esthers, to teach young adults to live Christ centered lives that flourish and make the biggest impact for Him during their lives."



Faith & Music

"I'm often asked about the key to my success and that's where I always share my faith," says Zoro. "Music is my medium to communicate with people- a platform to reach people." In Zoro's new book, *The Big Gig, Big-Picture Thinking for Success* (Alfred Music Publishing, \$19.99) he shares life lessons of a drummer which reflect God's principles for success. Zoro artfully offers readers keys to purposeful living, keeping it real and following your vision without losing yourself. Grammy-winning recording artist Lenny

Kravitz writes in his foreword to *The Big Gig*, "Zoro's heart, discipline and passion are what propelled him to greatness... His music and life lessons are about using your God-given talents to the maximum." Music icon Quincy Jones adds, "*The Big Gig* is a blueprint for a successful life. You will be inspired beyond your imagination!" As an added bonus to the book, every chapter includes a video interview with Zoro, accessible via Quick Response (QR) code (traditional web URLs are also provided). "I can only do so much one on one but with the written word and technology, I can multiply the godly concepts He has give me," says Zoro who previously authored the No. 1 award-winning and best-selling book and DVD package *The Commandments of R&B Drumming*.



Zoro has been featured on Joyce Meyer's *Living Word*, *The 700 Club*, and *Focus on the Family*. Meyer recommends Zoro's new book saying, "It's an inspirational book packed full of tools for anyone wanting to do great things in life."

Faith & Family

Zoro's wife Renee is not in the music business but has influenced the direction of his career during their sixteen years of marriage. "My wife has taught me a lot," says Zoro. "She has helped me to grow and produce more fruit in my life- the fruit that matters to God." The couple has two children who love music. "I don't want them to follow my path. I want them to follow God's path. They are all His," says Zoro who focuses on exposing his kids to all the opportunities God presents to them. "Every moment is a teaching moment. You are your children's first teacher." Zoro dedicated his new book to his wife, children and mother Maria, saying, "You are all proof of God's undeniable love and His unmerited favor on my life." Learn more about Zoro at www.zorothedrummer.com and www.zoroministries.org

— Laurie Stroud



Zoro with his wife Renee and their two children Jarod (12) and Jordan (10). Zoro shares, "My favorite gig is being a father."