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Published Saturday, October 29, 2005

Christian Music Game's a Blast

By JASON GILMER
New York Times Regional Newspapers

Apparently, my editors have a joking side and needed a good laugh.

"Hey Jason, want to review this game?"

Maybe a board game or another video game?

A dancing game? That's like asking a snake to walk on its feet.

"Dance Praise" is a Christian version of "Dance, Dance America." So, if your church isn't big on dancing, look for another game to put under the Christmas tree.

There's a big pad with arrows that you place on the floor and dance on (for more fun, toss it on your bed and dance there!)

The game is played on your home computer -- just plug it in, go through the installation process and start dancing. You can even line up two dance pads and challenge your friends.

The biggest challenge: not falling.

I'm rhythmically challenged, with two left feet and barely a sense of balance. Clubs are baseball teams, not places to go embarrass myself.

At least in the privacy of your own home, you can gyrate to the music without everyone watching.

If the only Christian music you know is gospel, this isn't the game for you.

This is rocking Christian tunes, with songs from Steven Curtis Chapman and Audio Adrenaline, to name two.

Lyrics with Christian themes flash on the screen as you dance.

So, no, you won't be ready to go on tour with Justin Timberlake or any of his ex-girlfriends after playing this game. It was fun, though, and after a few songs there was movement in my arms.

Look out, world! There's a new dancing king in town.

The soundtrack for this game would be great. The songs are easy to sing to and fun to listen to.

The graphics are easy to keep up with, and this game would be a blast for a teenager or younger kid. I can even see it being used during all-night lock-ins at local churches -- just don't invite me to demonstrate.

Jason Gilmer writes for the Herald-Journal in Spartanburg, S.C.
