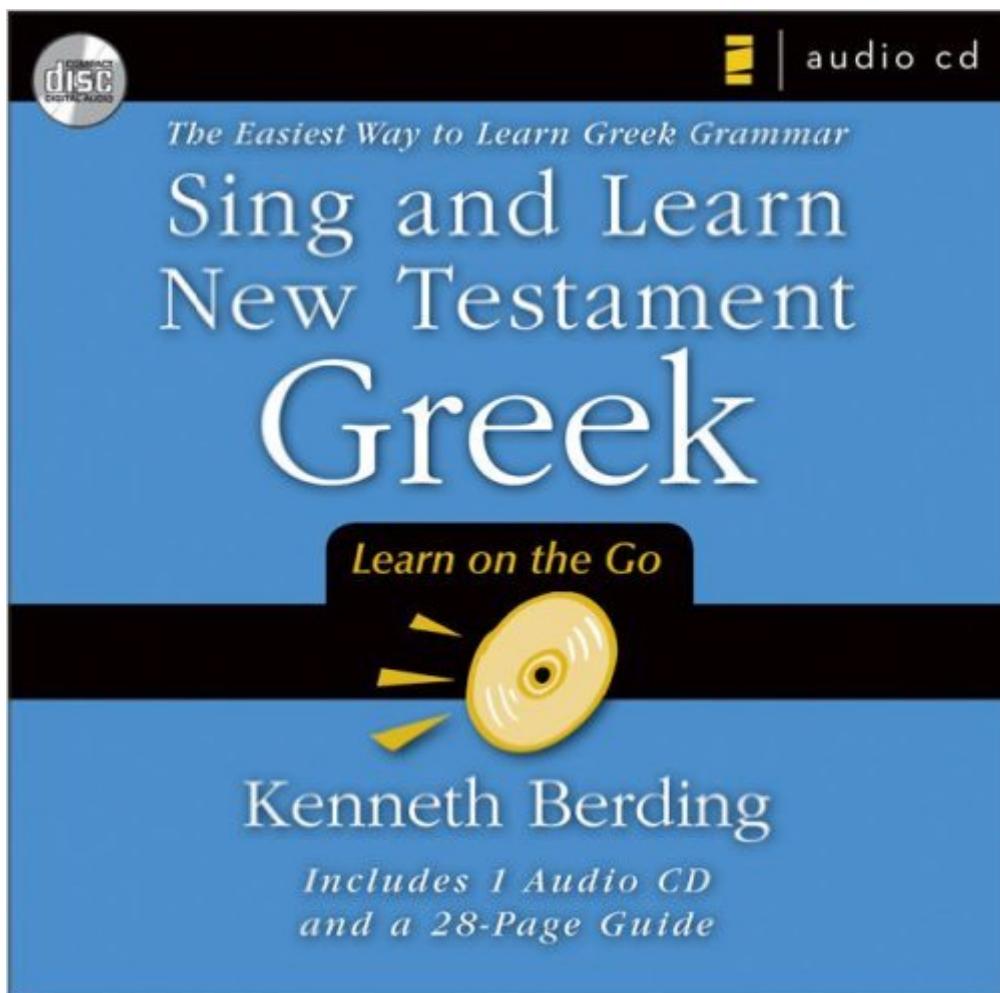


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# Sing And Learn New Testament Greek: The Easiest Way To Learn Greek Grammar



## Synopsis

A new addition to the Zondervan line of biblical Greek resources. This resource includes everything a professor or a student will need: a CD (containing eleven songs and a PowerPoint with paradigm charts for classroom use) and a booklet with the same paradigm charts for students' personal use. Sing and Learn New Testament Greek provides a way for learning (and remembering!) New Testament Greek grammar forms through simple songs. It is not designed to compete with existing Greek grammar books, but to serve as a required supplemental resource for elementary Greek classes. Indeed, it has been designed to be used alongside of any introductory grammar. A professor can simply assign to his or her students any (or some) of the songs for the paradigms a particular elementary grammar employs. In this way, students will actually remember what they have learned. (As we are all aware, people do not easily forget something learned via song.) The entire project includes songs for indicative verb endings, participles, infinitives, imperatives, contract forms, and prepositions, among others. All but the last song can be sung in 15 seconds or less. Parsing is enormously easier through this method. And it is a lot more fun than traditional methods. (Are we allowed to even use the word 'œfunâ• in reference to elementary Greek? Absolutely!) Beginning Greek students can listen to the CD as they drive to and from school or work, or put it on their iPod. These songs are so simple that students who have used them complain about waking up in the middle of the night with the songs running through their heads. You'll never hear that complaint from students who have had to use rote memory to learn grammar forms.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I first want to say that I am not connected with the author in any way and am not in his classes. I just downloaded the audio version of this with the accompanying PDF of the guide (thanks to Zondervan's great customer service in pointing me to it!)<sup>1</sup>. I have taken overall 6 semesters of Attic and Koine Greek and I still find myself having problems remembering these paradigms. To have another sensory way of learning them is very helpful. The more ways the better! The songs cover most of the harder and most common paradigms. One problem is that sometimes the paradigm behind the songs are hard to follow because of the ordering of the words, but in general, the author has done a great job of making the songs accessible.<sup>2</sup>. Having said that these songs are catchy and helpful, learning them is no substitute for spending time with the Greek text. The problem with learning a song is that you have to go through the whole thing to find a form and then you have to know the structure of the paradigm behind the song to locate the words proper form. This can be time consuming. So, this CD will not make you proficient at Greek, it will help get a good basis from which to build. Eventually, one should be able to recognize most of these endings and words without singing the songs.<sup>3</sup>. Finally, as for the songs themselves, they are catchy but not the sort of thing you would want to listen to outside of studying. The author made them very passable and helpful by sticking to children songs and songs we are familiar with. By doing so, some musical pleasantness was probably sacrificed. All in all I would highly recommend this CD/text for anybody who wants to refresh on their Greek paradigms and is sick of just sitting there with their text and drilling paradigms into one's head. Also it is great if one commutes.

I have an hour commute, one way, and this has been an outstanding tool for optimizing that drive time. I'm up to songs 8 and 9, and it's only been a few weeks. The songs are short, with most repeated just twice or three times. Two thumbs up for the creative arrangements, which vary and build as the song repeats -- keeps them interesting to listen to. One minor complaint is the uneven recording levels, forcing you to raise or lower the volume per song while you drive. But since you are generally working on just one song at a time, it's not a big deal. The CD contains a printable copy of the tables in the companion booklet, so you can keep copies in different places where you listen (in your car, by the bed, at your desk at work, etc.). You'll want the tables handy to refer to as you initially learn each song. (For non-drive times, what I've done is put the songs on my iPod Touch, and then put a copy of the tables into the Photos section. When I listen to a song, I can then just switch to the Photos section and follow along with the table. Works great when working out!) I also recommend Sing and Learn NT Greek to those who are pursuing NT Greek later in life and are finding (as I am) that the brain doesn't memorize things as quickly as it used to. Putting it to music

really helps with that (at least, it helps me).

Absolutely amazing! I am a first year Greek student...now in Greek 2. This has helped me tremendously, and caused me to stand out in the class cause I know so many paradigms from memory. Btw, I've read some of the negative reviews, and in my opinion, they should be taken with a grain of salt! I am being trained by Greek scholar, Dr. David deSilva at Ashland Theological Seminary and he has never corrected my pronunciation because of these recordings. Also, some people have commented on the speed of the recordings, as in they are too fast. Admittedly, it may seem that way when you start, but just listen to them and you'll get it...trust me. You will find that the speed helps greatly when you need to get through an entire paradigm to figure out what infinitive, for example, you're looking at. Being able to do it in 2-5 seconds is awesome! Trust me, you will be doing way better than those who don't have this!

I'm in Dr. Berding's Greek class and his technique is the way to go. I'm horrible when it comes to learning new languages, but Dr. Berding's technique has allowed me to read a large amount of the New Testament after only two semesters. I would recommend this technique to everyone. Dr. Berding has taught me an ancient, dead, foreign language through music. I barely made it through High School Spanish. I'm tone deaf and have absolutely no beat. If this technique works for a guy who's brother punches him in church because he's singing off key and clapping off beat, it'll work for you.

It was 1998, I was starting seminary, and I was enrolled in this man's class at Westminster Seminary in PA. Dr. B was just a PhD student at that time, teaching Greek. That first week, I was a complete unbeliever...in this. I scoffed. I thought it was silly. "We are adults in graduate school! What are we doing singing nursery rhymes?" Let me say this clearly. I have repented. I scoff no longer. I am totally convinced. Today I can rattle off the indicative verb chart just as well as when we were practicing it several times a week over a decade ago. It really does work. There's lots of Greek-learning materials out there. I went nuts buying books and software and didn't use most of it. My advice to beginning students would be to just buy what your teacher assigns, with maybe an extra introductory grammar (Mounce or Black). But I would also say, do not fail to buy and to milk this for all it is worth. (And for you reading as teachers, while I am not a prophet- I am unabashedly confident that I can predict for you the outcome of your employing these materials, because I am speaking not only out of my own experience but from having observed my classmates go through

this as well. Your students will end their class knowing their stuff significantly better than they otherwise would have, if you simply assign this and zip through some of these for a minute or two at the start of each class.) The beauty of this, is that it causes the material to stick. It works it into permanent long term memory. Buy this and engrave the structures of Koine Greek on your mind, and you will be better equipped in writing the content of the Scriptures on your heart, soul, mind, and life.

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