

The Brooklyn Gospel Team

Zephaniah 3:17

*The Lord your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.
He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing.*

A few years later while attending college we were riding in a van returning from a ministry in Brooklyn, New York singing songs, hymns and choruses as we traveled. Suddenly the leader of the Brooklyn Gospel Team, a gifted musician, turned to me and said, "Dick you have a wonderful bass voice. You should join our ensemble. We are going to be traveling during Easter vacation and singing in churches every night."

I tried out with fear and trembling and they accepted me into the group. What was really shocking to me was that in one of our numbers they asked me to sing a solo. That was a first! God did a wonderful thing for me.

It was on that tour group where my wife, Marilyn, and I began to fall in love. She was in that musical group as well and our hearts melted and molded as we sang.

In our first pastorate people found out that we sang together and we were asked to be the special music for several revival services. I remember one song we sang while still in college titled *It's Not an Easy Road*. We were rehearsing the song when it occurred to me that it sounded like we were singing, "*It's Snot an Easy Road*." We burst out laughing and could hardly ever sing that song without laughing at our diction.