WE GATHER TOGETHER

September 1 - Hymn Devotion

Scripture: Psalm 67:1-4

John 11:52

We gather together to ask the Lord’s blessing;   
He chastens and hastens His will to make known.  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;  
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
Thou, Lord, were at our side, all glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,   
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be.  
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;   
Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Netherlands Folk Hymn

Translated by

Theodore Baker (1851-1934)

He will be with us to guide and help us and the victory, the freedom in Him is a battle we know we will win from the beginning – Let us never stop gathering together (Hebrews 10:25) and praising Thy Name forever! Amen!

1. What is one of the reasons we gather?

 2. What does He do?

 3. Why?

4. Who are oppressing?

 5. What is the desire?

6. What are we to do?

 7. Who will He not forget?

 8. Verse 2: Where and what does God do?

9. What with His help do we do?

10. When does the victory start?

11. Where was the Lord?

12. What is His?

13. Verse 3: How do we extol the Lord?

14. What do we pray that the Lord will be?

15. What do we want to escape as His congregation?

16. What are we to always do to His Name?

17. What do we want to always be?

HOLY BIBLE, BOOK DIVINE

Hymn Devotion – September 2

Scripture -2 Timothy 3:16-17

Psalm 119:11

Holy Bible, Book divine,  
Precious treasure, thou art mine;  
Mine to tell me whence I came;  
Mine to teach me what I am.

Mine to chide me when I rove;  
Mine to show a Savior’s love;  
Mine thou art to guide and guard;  
Mine to punish or reward.

Mine to comfort in distress;  
Suffering in this wilderness;  
Mine to show, by living faith,  
Man can triumph over death.

Mine to tell of joys to come,  
And the rebel sinner’s doom;  
O thou Holy Book divine,  
Precious treasure, thou art mine.

John Burton (1773-1822)

The Bible tells us of the joys to come for those who believe and if we are a rebel sinner of our doom. God’s Word is a Holy Book divine a precious treasure that God so graciously chose to give us through the writers from Moses to John – Genesis through Revelations – Where would we be without it? Cherish, read, memorize (Psalm 119:11), share, live and abide by the Holy Bible, Book divine!

1. How is the Holy Bible described?

 2. What is the Bible to us?

 3. What does the Bible tell us?

4. What does the Bible teach us?

 5. Verse 2: To chide is to scold; rebuke.

What happens when we rove or leave the teachings of the Bible?

6. What does the Bible show?

7. What is the Bible to us?

8. What does the Bible do?

9. Verse 3: What does the Bible do in times of distress?

10. How is the world/life described here?

11. How do we show the Bible?

12. What can happen?

13. Verse 4: What are the two sides of the story?

14. How is the Bible described?

15. What is the Bible to us?

16. Whose is it?

APPROACH, MY SOUL, THE MERCY SEAT

September 3 - Hymn Devotion

Scripture: Hebrews 4:14, 16

Exodus 25:22

Approach, my soul, the mercy seat,  
Where Jesus answers prayer;  
There humbly fall before His feet,  
For none can perish there.

Thy promise is my only plea,  
With this I venture nigh;  
Thou callest burdened souls to Thee,  
And such, O Lord, am I.

Bowed down beneath a load of sin,  
By Satan sorely pressed,  
By war without and fears within,  
I come to Thee for rest.

Be Thou my shield and hiding Place,  
That, sheltered by Thy side,  
I may my fierce accuser face,  
And tell him Thou hast died!

O wondrous love! to bleed and die,  
To bear the cross and shame,  
That guilty sinners, such as I,  
Might plead Thy gracious Name.

John Newton (1725-1807)

It is interesting here that there is no mention of Jesus’ resurrection – but the death of Jesus was the price that He paid for our sins – the resurrection was to give us eternal life – Jesus’ death is the important thing here.

Are you bowed down with sin and guilt - Approach the mercy seat of God today for the promised rest – He is waiting there for you!

1. What are we telling ourselves to do?

 2. What happens there?

 3. What are we to do?

4. What happens to none there?

 5. Verse 2: What is our only plea?

6. What can we do with this?

7. Who does He call?

8. What are we admitting to being in the statement And such, O Lord, am I?

9. Verse 3: How do we get bowed down?

10. What does Satan do?

11. What is without and within?

12. How can we get rest?

13. Verse 4: What are we asking the Lord to be?

14. Where will we be sheltered?

15. Who can we face?

16. What can we tell him?

17. Verse 5: What caused Jesus to bleed and die?

18. What did He bear?

19. How are we describing ourselves?

20. A synonym of plead is seek.

What might we do?

I’VE FOUND A FRIEND, O SUCH A FRIEND

September 4 - Hymn Devotion

Scripture: John 15:13-15

Hosea 11:4

I’ve found a Friend, O such a friend!

He loved me ere I knew Him;  
He drew me with the cords of love,

And thus He bound me to Him;  
And round my heart still closely twine

Those ties which naught can sever,  
For I am His, and He is mine,

Forever and forever.

I’ve found a Friend, O such a friend!

He bled, He died to save me;  
And not alone the gift of life,

But His own Self He gave me!  
Naught that I have mine own I call,

I’ll hold it for the Giver,  
My heart, my strength, my life, my all Are His, and His forever.

I’ve found a Friend, O such a friend!

So kind and true and tender,  
So wise a Counselor and Guide,

So mighty a Defender!  
From Him who loves me now so well

What power my soul can sever?  
Shall life or death, shall earth or hell?

No! I am His forever.

James Grindlay Small (1817-1888)

This is such a wonderful comforting, encouraging hymn to know there is a friend like Jesus, who loved us before we even knew Him and the love that He has for us lead Him to die for us and He can and will guide, counsel and defend us if we let Him – When we accept Jesus as our Savior and live for Him – His love will never be cut off from us we are bound to Him with our hearts – What a friend to have – Come to Him today!

1. What have we found?

 2. What kind of friend?

 3. When did He love us?

4. How were we drawn to Him?

 5. How close are we to Him?

6. What kind of ties are twined around our heart?

7. What are we to God and him to us and for how long?

8. Verse 2: What did this friend do for us?

9. What besides the gift of life did Jesus give us?

10. What can we call our own?

11. What all do we hold for the Giver?

12. Whose are these things?

13. Verse 3: List all the “so” adjectives that describe our Friend:

14. How does He love us?

15. List the powers that cannot sever us from Jesus?

16. How long are we His?

SPEAK, LORD, IN THE STILLNESS

Hymn Devotion – September 5

Scripture: I Samuel 3:9-10

Speak, Lord, in the stillness  
While I wait on Thee;  
Hushed my heart to listen,  
In expectancy.

Speak, O blessed Master,  
In this quiet hour,  
Let me see Thy face, Lord,  
Feel Thy touch of power.

For the words Thou speakest,  
“They are life” indeed;  
Living Bread from Heaven,  
Now my spirit feed!

All to Thee is yielded,  
I am not my own;  
Blissful, glad surrender,  
I am Thine alone.

Fill me with the knowledge  
Of Thy glorious will;  
All Thine own good pleasure  
In my life fulfill.

Emily May Grimes (1868-1927)

One of the hardest things in this life is to WAIT upon the Lord, wait to hear His voice, wait to have His spirit move whether in healing of a physical ailment, the guidance for direction in life or whatever we have to make ourselves still and wait for the Lord, in expectancy – expecting to hear for Him – and then be willing to do as He leads us to do – even if it is in uncharted waters.

Wait today on the Lord in the stillness of the hour.

1. What are we asking the Lord to do?

 2. What do we have to do?

 3. How does our heart have to be?

4. What do we have to do?

5. Verse 2: Who are we asking to speak?

6. When are we asking Him to speak?

7. What are we asking to see?

8. What do we want to feel?

9. Verse 3: What does He speak?

10. What are they indeed?

11. How are they described?

12. What do His words feed?

13. Verse 4: What is yielded to Him?

14. What are we not?

15. Whose are we alone?

16. Verse 5: What do we want to be filled with?

17. Of what?

18. Whose pleasure?

19. In whose life?