Cover Page:

“HYMN OF A WEEK for A YEAR” Lessons –

Basic ideas of the lessons:

Hopefully you will have access to the internet -

Or have someone who can help you out with printouts. There will be a very basic outline of the author but you can find many different things on line about the authors – usually – sometimes not so much but the search is part of the lesson.

The first part of the lessons just gets you acquainted with the hymn and its author.

Part two is the answering of the questions – You will need to have extra paper to go with your lessons to answer the questions and the pearling of words or ideas.

Part Three is the prepared chain or pearling of a word or idea.

Part four is your part to get into the “meat” of pearling or chaining a word or idea of your own choosing – there might be a suggestion but the ultimate is yours to do!! You will need at least a Concordance but a Study Bible with the targeted words marked with footnoted letters to guide you to the next verse(s) would be the best.

It is advised to keep a list of words and texts for future references, some words can be revisited and pearled again.

Part five is the review of the hymn with discussion questions etc.

Close each session with prayer (of course you already knew that!!)

As always adapt these lessons to your needs – if some parts are too short and others too long work them together to fit your family/group time frame.

All hymns obtained from Internet site

cyberhymnal.com

home page: http://www.hymntime.come/tch

**Week 1 - Lesson 1 - Part 1:** Open with prayer –

Memory Verse: Psalm 18:1 –

I love you, O Lord, my strength

Read the hymn:

What God Hath Promised

God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower strewn pathways all our lives through;
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.

*Refrain*

*But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.*

God hath not promised we shall not know
Toil and temptation, trouble and woe;
He hath not told us we shall not bear
Many a burden, many a care.

*Refrain*

God hath not promised smooth roads and wide,
Swift, easy travel, needing no guide;
Never a mountain rocky and steep,
Never a river turbid and deep.

*Refrain*

Annie J. Flint (1866-1932)

* Adopted by the Flint family
* Became a teacher
* Couldn’t continue to teach because of arthritis
* Moved from New Jersey to Clifton Springs NY
* Began to write poetry
* Poems appeared on card, in magazines and in book form

**Week 1 - Lesson 1 – Part 2**: Open with prayer, reread hymn – review memory verse

Answer the following questions:

List what God Has not promised:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

What God has not promised we will not know:

 A.

 B.

 C.

 D.

 E.

 F

Continue What God has NOT promised:

1.

 8.

 9.

10.

 11.

12.

What God Has Promised:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

**Week 1 - Lesson 1-Part 3**: Open with prayer, review memory verse.

 Scripture word study: Strength

1. Psalm 28:7 – List what the Lord’s strength does for us:
2. Psalm 18:1 – What is declared here?
3. Exodus 15:2 – Who’s all God is He?

That is one chain – to make another chain of this you need to go back to Psalm 18:1 and chose another path –

1. Deuteronomy 33:29 – Which two words translate into strength?
2. Genesis 15:1 – Why is Abram not to be afraid?
3. Psalm 18:2 – List all the words that can mean strength:

**Week 1 –Lesson 1 – Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory verse; Continue to pearl the word presented or choose another word or words to chain through scripture:

**Week 1 - Lesson 1-Part 5:** Open with prayer, reread hymn, review memory verse -

REVIEW and DISCUSSION:

1. Briefly what does God not promise?
2. What does God Promise?
3. What do God’s promises mean to you?
4. Do we often read into God’s promises the things He really doesn’t promise?
5. Are promises easy to keep or should we avoid making promises?

**Week 2 - Lesson 2 – Part 1:** Open with prayer

Memory Verse: Ephesians 4: 7 – But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

Read hymn:

He Giveth More Grace

He giveth more grace as our burdens grow greater,
He sendeth more strength as our labors increase;
To added afflictions He addeth His mercy,
To multiplied trials His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources
Our Father’s full giving is only begun.

His love has no limits, His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.

Annie J. Flint (1866-1932)

Twice orphaned, twisted and in pain from arthritis Annie was an eloquent writer and author.

**Week 2 – Lesson 2 – Part 2:** Open with prayer

Reread hymn; review memory verse –

Answer the following questions:

1. What is given?

As what grows greater?

1. What does He send?

As what increases?

1. What is added?

What does He add?

1. What is multiplied?

What does He multiply?

1. Verse 2: What is exhausted?
2. What has failed?

How soon?

1. How is our resources described?
2. What has only begun?
3. Verse 3: What has no limits?
4. What has no measure?
5. What does His power have?
6. Who does God have infinite riches in?
7. What does God do?

From the answers to the questions make a list of possible words to chain through the scriptures – or see the next page for a possible chain(s)

**Week 2 – Lesson 2 – Part 3:** Open with prayer

Scripture word study:

Grace given:

1. Romans 15:14-16 – List the points boldly written:

 Why could Paul write like that?

1. Romans 12:3 – What we ought not to do?
2. Galatians 2:9 – How did grace help with the decision made here?

 What was the decision?

1. Ephesians 3:7 – How did Paul become a servant of the Gospel?

 Through whom?

1. Ephesians 4: 7 - How has grace been given?
2. 1 Peter 4:10-11 – List ways that grace can be administered?

**Week 2 – Lesson 2 – Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory verse -

Suggestion: Look up people who are filled with grace. Or use words from you list to do a scripture study.

**Week 2 – Lesson 2 – Part 5:** Open with prayer; reread hymn; review memory verse:

REVIEW and DISCUSSION:

1. Who gives grace?
2. How can God give and give and give?
3. Do we realize the full measure of the grace that God gives?

 If not how can we get a grasp of God’s grace?

1. Can we be like the Biblical people filled with grace?

If so - How can we?

1. Why is grace important to Christians?

**Week 3 – Lesson 3 – Part 1:** Open with prayer; Read the hymn and talk about author.

Memory Verse: John 15:4 – Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

O Lord, Abide in Me

Abide in me, O Lord, and I in Thee,
From this good hour, oh, leave me nevermore;
Then shall the discord cease, the wound be healed,
The lifelong bleeding of the soul be o’er.

Abide in me; o’ershadow by Thy love
Each half formed purpose and dark thought of sin;
Quench ere it rise each selfish, low desire,
And keep my soul as Thine, calm and divine.

As some rare perfume in a vase of clay,
Pervades it with a fragrance not its own,
So, when Thou dwellest in a mortal soul,
All Heaven’s own sweetness seems around it thrown.

Abide in me; there have been moments blest
When I have heard Thy voice and felt Thy power;
Then evil lost its grasp; and passion, hushed,
Owned the divine enchantment of the hour.

These were but seasons beautiful and rare;
Abide in me, and they shall ever be;
Fulfill at once Thy precept and my prayer,
Come, and abide in me, and I in Thee.

Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896)

* Daughter of a minister
* Mother died when she was four
* Harriet married Calvin Stowe a professor
* She became a professor as well
* Wrote “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”

**Week 3 – Lesson 3 – Part 2:** Open with prayer; review memory verse;

Answer Questions:

1. Who is abiding in whom?
2. From when do we not want to be left?
3. What should cease?
4. What to be healed?
5. What should be over?
6. Verse 2: What overshadows abiding?
7. What do we want quenched?
8. How do we want our souls?
9. Verse 3: How is the dwelling of God in the mortal soul described?
10. What is thrown around it?
11. Verse 4: What have been blest?
12. What has been heard and felt?
13. What is lost its grasp and what is hushed?
14. How is the hour described?
15. Verse 5: What is described as beautiful and rare?
16. How can they be that way?
17. What do we want fulfilled at once?
18. What are we inviting God to do in us and we in Him?

**Week 3 – Lesson 3 – Part 3:** Open with prayer; review memory verse;

Scripture word study:

Abide;remain

1. If possible compare John 15:4 in the Kings James Version and the NIV –

What is the “new” word for abide?

1. John 6:56 – What is Jesus pointing to here?
2. 1 John 2:24 – What needs to remain in us?

If that remains in us who will we remain in?

1. 1 John 3:24 – Who remains in Him and he in them?

How do we know that he lives (abides, remains) in us?

1. 1 John 4:15, 16 – What do we need to acknowledge?

What do we need to know and rely on?

**Week 3 – Lesson 3 – Part 4:** Open with prayer; review the memory verse;

Continue to pearl abide; remain; live etc or choose another word(s); or idea from the hymn.

**Week 3 – Lesson 3 – Part 5:** Open with prayer; reread hymn; review memory work –

REVIEW and DISCUSSION:

1. What is your idea of abiding in something or someone?
2. Do you feel that your abiding in the Lord and he in you has ceased discord, wounds healed and the bleeding soul is over?
3. How is sin selfish and low desire?
4. Would you consider your soul calm and divine?
5. How would you describe “Heaven’s Sweetness?”
6. Can you name some times when the voice of God and His power has made evil lose it’s grasp?
7. Have you had some beautiful and rare seasons of experiencing abiding in God and He in you?
8. If you haven’t invited Jesus into your heart or don’t feel Him abiding in you – Now may be the time to explore His precepts in your life and pray!

**Week 4 – Lesson 4 – Part 1:** Open with prayer; review memory verse; read the hymn and talk about the author.

Revelation 3:20 – Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me.

Knocking, Knocking, Who is There?

Knocking, knocking, who is there?
Waiting, waiting, oh, how fair!
’Tis a Pilgrim, strange and kingly,
Never such was seen before,
Ah, my soul, for such a wonder,
Wilt thou not undo the door?

Knocking, knocking! still He’s there:
Waiting, waiting, wondrous fair!
But the door is hard to open
For the weeds and ivy vine,
With their dark and clinging tendrils,
Ever round the hinges twine.

Knocking, knocking—what, still there?
Waiting, waiting, grand and fair!
Yes, the piercèd hand still knocketh,
And beneath the crownèd hair
Beam the patient eyes, so tender,
Of thy Savior waiting there.

Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896)

* Daughter of a minister
* Mother died when she was four
* Harriet married Calvin Stowe a professor
* She became a professor as well
* Wrote “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”

Week 4 – Lesson 4 – Part 2: Open with prayer; review memory verse;

Answer the Questions:

1. Who is there knocking?
2. What is He doing?
3. How is He described?
4. Was such ever seen before?
5. What door is He knocking at?
6. Verse 2: What is the surprise?
7. How is He described?
8. Write all the descriptive words that make the door hard to open:
9. Verse 3: What is He still doing at the door?
10. How is He described?
11. How is His hands described?
12. How is His hair described?
13. How are His eyes described?
14. Who is waiting?

**Week 4 – Lesson 4 – Part 3:** Open with prayer; review memory verse;

Scripture word study:

Patience – As we see in this hymn Jesus has patience – knocking and waiting –

1. Romans 2:4 – What are the kindnesses that lead us toward repentance?
2. Romans 9:22 – What has God bore with great patience?
3. 1 Timothy 1:16 – What is the patience of Jesus to us as believers?
4. 1 Peter 3:20 – Who did God wait patiently for? To do what?
5. 2 Peter 3:15 – What does the Lord’s patience mean to us?

**Week 4 – Lesson 4 – Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory verse;

Continue with a new path of patience or choose another word or idea from the hymn.

**Week 4 – Lesson 4 – Part 5:** Open with prayer; reread the hymn; review the memory verse

REVIEW and Discussion:

1. Do we even come close to patience of Jesus when we are knocking and waiting for someone to answer the door?
2. Why won’t Jesus “undo” the door to enter?
3. Was or is the door to your heart and soul hard to open?
4. Does or should it surprise us that Jesus waits patiently for us to answer?
5. Why is it so difficult for us to be patient?
6. Talk about how we need to be more patient – with ourselves as well with one another especially with the ones we love the most.