Cover Page:

“HYMN OF A WEEK for A YEAR” Lessons –

Basic ideas of the lessons:

If you are looking at these lessons you have the internet – please if you know someone who does not have access to the internet and would like to do the lessons – please print off the lessons for them.

The first part of the lessons just gets you acquainted with the hymn and its author and an introduction to the memory verse. Part of the “assignment” for part one is also to look up more about the author and/or the story behind the hymn.

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.

The Bible used: The NIV Study Bible copyright 1985 by Zondervan Corporation

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 but you will want to use other scriptures.

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 5– Lesson 5 – Part 1:** Open with prayer; read hymn and memory work.

Memory Work: 1 Chronicles 22:13b – Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged.

Be Strong!

 Be strong!
We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;
We have hard work to do and loads to lift;
Shun not the struggle, face it, ’tis God’s gift.
Be strong, be strong, be strong!

Be strong!
Say not the days are evil—who’s to blame?
And fold the hands and acquiesce—O shame!
Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in God’s name.
Be strong, be strong, be strong!

Be strong!
It matters not how deep entrenched the wrong,
How hard the battle goes, the day, how long;
Faint not, fight on! Tomorrow comes the song.
Be strong, be strong, be strong!

Maltbie D. Babcock (1858-1901)

Athlete – baseball pitcher, swimmer, runner, fisherman

Musical, theatrical

Presbyterian Pastor

Probably most popular hymn – “This is My Father’s World”

He died of brucellosis after a trip to the Holy Land

He had nothing published during his lifetime

His wife published his poems so he never heard his hymns sung

**Week 5-Lesson 5-Part 2:** Open with prayer; review memory work.

Questions to Answer:

1. What are we not here to do?
2. What do we have to do?
3. What are we not to shun?
4. What are we to do?

Why?

1. Verse 2: What are we not to say the days are?
2. Who is to blame?
3. If needed look up acquiesce – Why are folded hands and acquiesce shameful?
4. What are we to do in God’s Name?
5. Verse 3: What starts and ends all the verses?
6. What is deeply entrenched?
7. What will be hard?
8. What is long?
9. What are we not to do?
10. What are we to do?

Why?

**Week 5-Lesson5-Part 3:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Scripture word study:

Strong and Courageous-

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 – Why could Moses tell all of Israel to be strong and courageous?
2. Deuteronomy 31:7, 8 – Who did Moses tell to be strong and courageous?

How could he be strong and courageous?

1. Deuteronomy 31:23 – What was the command God gave to Joshua?
2. Joshua 1:7 – What was Joshua to do besides being strong and very courageous?
3. Joshua 1:18 – What would happen to those who didn’t obey Joshua?

What were the last words of the chapter?

**Week 5-Lesson 5 –Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Continue to pearl the phrase strong and courageous. OR you could pick strong or courageous they are divided in Joshua 1:6.

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

Review and Discussion:

1. Do we do the things in the first phase of the hymn?
2. Do we actually lift loads?

 If so how?

1. How do we often react to struggles?
2. All too often we do the folding hands and accepting not the standing up speaking out bravely – Talk about some issues of today that Christians including ourselves have not stood up but just accepted what happened.
3. What are we to do with issues – even those that are deeply entrenched?
4. Are we ready to fight on and faint not?
5. Talk about some ways we can be strong and as Joshua was to be – strong and courageous?

**Week 6 – Lesson 6 – Part 1:** Open with prayer; read hymn and memory work.

Memory Verse – Psalm 121:3b – He who watches over you will not slumber.

(If you want to be more ambitious memorize - Psalm 121)

God’s Boundless Love

God’s boundless love! As arching sky
Above us when we wake and sleep,
Above us when we smile and weep,
Above us when we live and die.

God’s tireless love! Beside the cot
Of her sick child the mother sleeps.
Our heavenly Father ever keeps
Unweary watch—and slumbers not.

God’s changeless love! The wand’ring one
Forsakes, forgets, dishonors; yet,
Repenting, going home, is met
With no reproach—Welcome, My son!

God’s mighty love! On Calvary’s height,
Suff’ring to save us from our sin,
To bring God’s wide dominion in,
And fill our lives with joy and light.

God’s endless love! What will it be
When earthly shadows flee away,
For all eternity’s bright day
Th’unfolding of that love to see!

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**Week 6 – Lesson 6 – Part 2:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Questions to Answer:

1. How is God’s love described:
2. What defines the description?
3. When is it above us?
4. Verse 2: How is God’s love described?
5. How is the description described?
6. How is that analogy like God?
7. Verse 3: How is God’s love described?
8. Who can be the wandering ones?
9. What do wandering ones do?
10. When done wandering what do we do?
11. What parable do the last lines of the verse remind you of?
12. Verse 4: What kind of love is God’s love?
13. Where was that love proved?
14. What happened there?
15. What does God’s love do?
16. Verse 5: How is God’s love described?
17. What will flee away?
18. How is seeing heaven described?
19. What will we see

**Week 6 – Lesson 6 – Part 3:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Scripture and word study:

Unfailing Love:

1. Psalm 119:76 – How is God’s love described?

How does that kind of love affect our life?

1. Psalm 6:4 – What is the Psalmist looking for with unfailing love?
2. Psalm 13:5 – What can/must we put in God’s unfailing love?

And what does our heart do?

1. Psalm 77:7-8 - How is the Psalmist feeling here?

Have you ever felt that way?

1. Isaiah 54:10 – What is the assurance here?

**Week 6 - Lesson 6 –Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory work.

Continue to look up scriptures about God’s unfailing love or look for other descriptions of love or other words or subjects from the hymn.

**Week 6 - Lesson 6 –Part 5:** Open with prayer; review memory work; and reread the hymn.

Review and Discussion:

1. How does having the only living, loving God make you feel?
2. Discuss each verse and the example of God’s love in that verse:
3. How do these examples fit so well God’s love?
4. How have you been a wandering one?
5. Did you feel welcomed when you returned to God – by God? By His people?
6. Which of the descriptions of God’s love do you think fit how you view and or understand God’s love?
7. What does God’s love mean to you?

**Week 7 – Lesson 7 – Part 1:** Open with prayer;

 Memory Work: Psalm 50:1 – The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets.

This is My Father’s World

This is my Father’s world, And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres.
This is my Father’s world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world, The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker’s praise.
This is my Father’s world: He shines in all that’s fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father’s world. O let me ne’er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father’s world: The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav’n be one.

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**Week 7 – Lesson 7 – Part 2:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Questions to Answer:

1. Whose world is it?

2. What should our ears be doing?

3. What does nature do?

4. What rings around us?

5. What can we be in our own mind?

6. What is the list of wonders that His hand have wrought (created)?

7. Verse 2: Who raises carols?

8. What all declares their Maker's praise?

9. What does He shine in?

10. Where can we hear Him pass?

11. If we listen - What will He do everywhere?

12. Verse 3: What should we never let ourselves do?

13. What seems so often strong?

14. Who is still the Ruler?

16. What is not done yet?

17. Who will be satisfied?

18. What two things will be one?

**Week 7 – Lesson 7 – Part 3**: Open with prayer; review memory work;

Scripture and Word Study:

Sky:

1. Genesis 1:8 – What was the expanse called?
2. Job 9:8 – Another word for sky?
3. Job 37:14, 18 – What three things is Job told to do?

Using these three things what is the assignment?

Vs. 18 – What is not possible?

1. Psalm 19:1 – What does the heavens declare?

What do the skies proclaim?

1. Jeremiah 10:12 –

God made earth by his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

God founded the world by his \_\_\_\_\_\_.

God stretched out the heavens by his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Week 7 – Lesson 7 – Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory work -

Continue to look up scriptures on sky or heavens –

There are at least two concepts of “world” in the Bible – one is the world God made and the other is that of being of the world – evil, Satan – One or both of these concepts might be worth exploring.

**Week 7 – Lesson 7 – Part 5:** Open with prayer; review memory work; reread the hymn:

Review and Discussion:

1. Do we really realize often that our world belongs to God?
2. Do we listen to the world around us?

 If so when is your favorite time to listen?

What have you heard?

1. Talk about your favorite things in God’s world:
2. What are some wrongs that are really strong in our world?
3. What do you think is the battle that the hymnist talks about?
4. Talk about your perspective or feelings on when earth and heaven are one.
5. Do we lack “ownership” of the world if we believe it belongs to God?

**Week 8 – Lesson 8 - Part 1:** Open with Prayer;

Memory Work: 1 Chronicles 16:28-29: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

When the Great Sun Sinks to His Rest

When the great sun sinks to his rest,
His golden glories thrilling me,
And voiceless longings stir my breast,
Then teach me, Lord, to worship Thee.

And when the stars—the daylight fled—
In serried, shining ranks I see,
Filling the splendid vault o’erhead,
Then teach me, Lord, to worship Thee.

Or if in solemn forest shades
The calm of nature steals o’er me,
And silence all my soul pervades,
Then teach me, Lord, to worship Thee.

Not in the sacred shrines alone,
Which chime their summons unto me,
Would I look upward to Thy throne,
But everywhere would worship Thee.

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**Week 8 – Lesson 8 – Part 2:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Questions to Answer:

1. How is the sun described?
2. What are thrilling?
3. How can we be stirred?
4. Who are we asking to teach us?
5. Verse 2: When daylight flees what come out?
6. How are the stars “stacked” up?
7. How is the sky described?
8. What are we asking to be taught?
9. Verse 3: What is the contrast to the sky?
10. How is nature described and how does come over us?
11. What is the pervading sound in our soul?
12. What is the request?
13. Verse 4: What are some sacred shrines?
14. How are we often summonsed to worship?
15. What then do we do?
16. Do we only do this when in sacred shrines?

**Week 8 – Lesson 8 – Part 3:** Open with prayer; Review memory work

Scripture and Word Study:

Rest:

1. Matthew 11:28 – Who gets rest from Jesus?
2. Exodus 33:14 – What did God say to assure Moses as he lead the Israelites?
3. Deuteronomy 12:10 – Who will God give the people rest from?
4. Deuteronomy 25:17-19 – There is a lot of history packed in these three verses – Who is giving the rest?

 What are they to forget?

1. Joshua 1:13 – How is this the completion of #4?
2. Joshua 11:23 – How is this a completion of #5? What is the rest from?

**Week 8 – Lesson 8 – Part 4:** Open with prayer; review memory work;

Continue the succession of rest or chose another word or theme from the hymn.

**Week 8 – Lesson 8 – Part 5:** Open with prayer; Review memory work and reread the hymn.

Review and Discussion:

1. Who or what are the enemies and wars around us?
2. Do we have rest from those exterior elements?
3. When will we for sure get this rest?
4. In what ways do you worship the Lord?
5. Who or how can teach us to worship the Lord?
6. How do sunsets, stars and secluded forests inspire us to worship the Lord?
7. What are some ways to get worship of the Lord outside the church’s four walls?
8. What about people that do not attend church because they can worship the Lord wherever they are?

Do they really worship wherever they are?

How about fellowship of other Christians?