Quiet Worship

Reflections,
prayers,
scripture, and
recorded new hymns
for
public worship and
personal devotions

from the series:

Fresh Views of Timeless Truths

Ken Bible

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Contents

Scripture, Reflections, Prayers, and *Hymns*

Psalm 16:8-11	4
A Prayer for Today	5
<i>Holy in You</i>	6
Psalm 34:1-3	8
Worship Devotional	9
<i>I Look to You</i>	10
Psalm 19:1-6	11
A Living Hymn	12
<i>Reminders of You</i>	13
Scriptures on Walking with God	14
Living a Relationship	16
<i>Day by Day in You, Our Lord</i>	17
Psalm 62:5-8	18
Alone with Jesus	19
<i>In Your Presence, God Almighty</i>	20
Enjoying His Presence	21
<i>My Father, My Joy</i>	23
Rewarding God	24
<i>As Simply as a Child</i>	26
Scripture Stories of Active Worshipers	27
Which Worshipers Pleased Jesus?	29
<i>My Life, My Love, My Joy</i>	31
Psalm 23	32
You Are with Me	33
<i>Almighty God Is Near!</i>	34
Scriptures on God Drawing Us to Himself	35
God Is Drawing Us to Himself	36
<i>Psalm</i> 33	37
Christ Is Our Feast	38
<i>The Feast Is Spread</i>	39

Psalm 16:8-11

(NASB)

I have set the Lord continually before me;
Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices;
My flesh also will dwell securely.
For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol;
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.
You will make known to me the path of life;
In Your presence is fullness of joy;
In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

A Prayer for Today

Today, Eternal God, we live and move and breathe in You. Help us live this day abundantly, in the reality of all You are.

You are our Father.

Help us walk in

all the privileges of the children of God.

You are our Savior, who gave Yourself for us. Help us rest in Your all-encompassing love.

You are the Spirit.

Help us love and serve

here in Your presence,

out of the rich abundance of Almighty God.

We ask all this
in Your name and
for Your glory alone.
Amen.

Father, when I begin to realize who You are,
Your lavish gifts are not enough.
I want to know You and please You and worship You.
I want to love You and walk with You and trust You every moment.
I want to live in You and for You and to You alone.

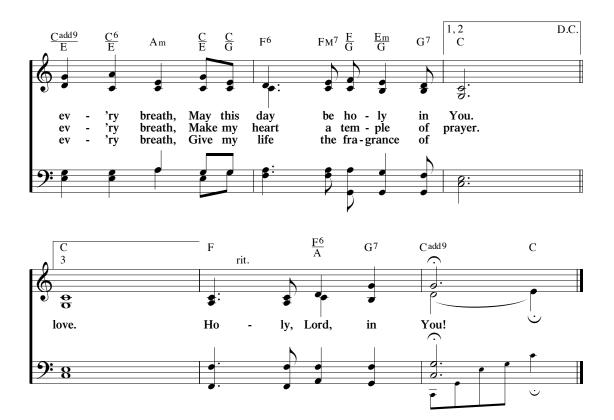
Hymn recording: Holy in You

Holy in You



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CCLI Song #3461318. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.



Psalm 34:1-3

(NASB)

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice. O magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together.

Worship Devotional

Father, as I stand in Your presence, how can I help but praise You? How can I help but worship and adore and exalt You? You are God, and I have lived my whole life surrounded by Your mercy.

You and I know what kind of person I really am, yet You love me and forgive me and keep drawing me toward You.
How can I possibly respond to that, Lord?
How can I love and praise You?

Hymn recording: Look to You

I Look to You

Psalm 25:1-5; 27:14; 33:20-22; 39:7; 130:5-7; 145:15; John 15:11; 17:13; 2 Peter 3:3-15a



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Psalm 19:1-6

(NASB)

The heavens are telling of the glory of God;
And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.
Day to day pours forth speech,
And night to night reveals knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
Their voice is not heard.
Their line has gone out through all the earth,
And their utterances to the end of the world.
In them He has placed a tent for the sun,
Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber;
It rejoices as a strong man to run his course.
Its rising is from one end of the heavens,
And its circuit to the other end of them;
And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

A Living Hymn

Father, the heavens sing of Your greatness so beautifully and constantly.

Even their silence is eloquent and majestic.

Can I, Your child, do any less?

May my daily kindness sing of Your
warm smile and
open-armed acceptance.

May my generosity sing of Your
great bounty and
eagerness to share.

Let my patience under pressure sing of Your
faithfulness and
gentle strength and
unshakable peace.

Let my joy in every situation remind those around me that You are always near and always good.

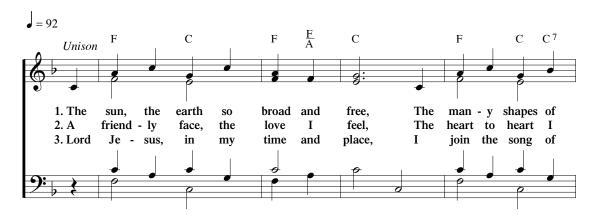
Father, make my life a hymn to Your great love.

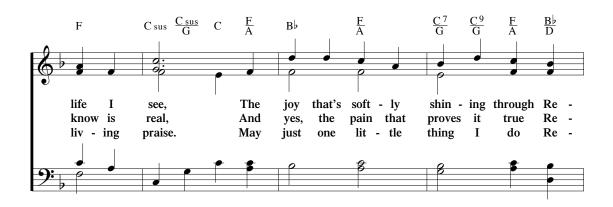
O Father, my Father,
may I always respond to all You are!
Like the mountains,
may I quake at Your footsteps.
Like the green earth,
may I bear rich fruit because of Your presence in me.
May all pride melt away before the fire of
Your magnificence and
Your holiness.

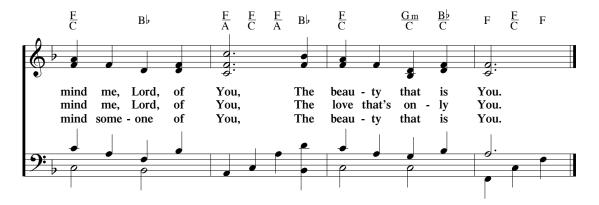
Hymn recording: Reminders of You

Reminders of You

Psalm 19; 1 John 4:16







WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

REMINDERS 8.8.8.6.6.

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Scriptures on Walking with God

(NASB)

Genesis 6:8-9

Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord... Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.

Deuteronomy 8:6

You shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him.

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?

John 8:12

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

1 John 1:6-7

If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 2:6

The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

Living a Relationship

I want to know Christ. (Philippians 3:10, NIV)

Being a Christian is not living a set of rules. It is living a relationship.

It's like a marriage.

What God wants most from us is to

love the Lord your God with all your heart . . . soul . . . mind and . . . strength (Mark 12:30).

I've learned that when my wife wants something – when she's irritable or withdrawn – what she usually wants is *me*.

She wants to share with me.

She wants us to truly be together for a while.

Jesus is the same.

When He wants something from me,

He wants me.

Not some great work of service –

me.

He wants me to turn to Him.

He wants to live that moment,

every moment,

in relationship with me.

He wants us to walk together day-by-day, step-by-step.

God is not a set of rules
but a person.

He Himself is the only source of
all that He wants for us, of
all holiness, love, and goodness.
So His primary goal for us is
always only
relationship with Himself.

Hymn recording: <u>Day by Day in You, Our Lord</u>

Day by Day in You, Our Lord



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible TRAVELER 7.8.7.7.7.7.7.

Psalm 62:5-8

(NASB)

My soul, wait in silence for God only,
For my hope is from Him.
He only is my rock and my salvation,
My stronghold; I shall not be shaken.
On God my salvation and my glory rest;
The rock of my strength, my refuge is in God.
Trust in Him at all times, O people;
Pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us.

Alone with Jesus

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As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. (Psalm 42:1, NIV)
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I've done those things now. I've enjoyed them, and still do.

But I've learned that as much as I enjoy solitude, solitude itself isn't satisfying.

Being alone with Jesus is satisfying.
I turn to Him, and
He is with me.
I can talk freely to Him,
person to person, or just
relax in the silence and
wait for Him to speak.

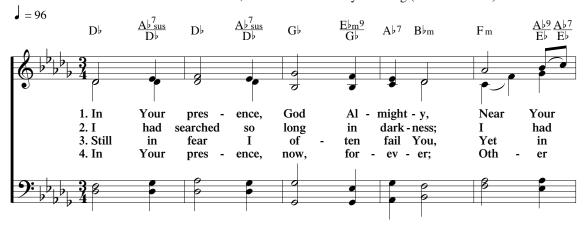
His presence is life's greatest joy. It's a gift He will never take away.

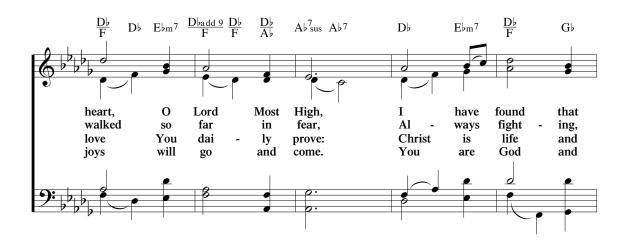
Father, help me to offer You each of my spare moments.

Hymn recording: In Your Presence, God Almighty

In Your Presence, God Almighty

ALTERNATE TUNE: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (NETTLETON)







WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Daniel Read; arr. by Ken Bible CHARLESTOWN 8.7.8.7.

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Enjoying His Presence

It was a Thursday evening, with most of a long week behind me. My wife was out for the evening, and I felt the urge to take a long drive, just to relax with a change of scenery. I had planned to drive north or west, toward a store or somewhere with people, but instead I felt led to drive south, into more open country.

On a back road I was stopped by a train, and while waiting, I looked up at the sky. It was so clear. The moon, just past half full, was sparkling and bright. It was one of those beautiful scenes that just makes you smile all over. And in those moments, I realized God had brought me out there just to sense and enjoy His presence. He just wanted me to know He was there.

I am discovering that God makes a wonderful companion. When I was dating, I had to save up topics to talk about in order to keep a conversation going. But in God's presence, you don't have to talk all the time, and you don't have to strain to listen for His voice. When you know that He will speak when He's ready, you can relax.

I don't imagine God wants us to feel ill-at-ease in His presence. I don't like it when people feel uncomfortable around me. It usually indicates they don't know me, don't like me, or don't trust me. Like any good Friend, God wants us to feel relaxed in His presence, sharing our words or our silence, whichever our need may be.

The writer of Psalm 73 must have had a similar experience with God. Through most of the Psalm, he complains that the wicked prosper while the righteous scrimp to survive. He was beginning to wonder if living a righteous life was worth it...till he entered the sanctuary. There, after experiencing God's presence, he understood how swift and certain the destruction of the wicked would be, as they would be cut off completely and forever from the goodness of the Creator.

The Psalmist then ends his Psalm. Note the warm, personal tone of one who knows he is with God at that very moment:

I am continually with You;
You have taken hold of my right hand.
With Your counsel You will guide me,
And afterward receive me [a]to glory.
Whom have I in heaven but You?
And besides You, I desire nothing on earth.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
For, behold, those who are far from You will perish;
You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to You.
But as for me, the nearness of God is my good;
I have made the Lord God my refuge,
That I may tell of all Your works. (Psalm 73:23-28, NASB)

Perhaps what God most wants you to know is that He is right there with you, as a real, living being. Knowing that, and treating Him accordingly, can transform your entire life.

Hymn recording: My Father, My Joy

My Father, My Joy



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CCLI Song #7157779.

FULLNESS OF JOY 5.4.5.4.10.10.

Rewarding God

"I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty. (2 Corinthians 6:18, NASB)

Did one of God's plans ever seem ridiculous to you? Here's an example:

We were living totally blind and deaf to God, desperately wanting our own way, totally selfish, running from his blessings. But investing himself without reserve, He saved us, called us, and nurtured faith within us. At the cost of His life, He completely forgave and fully cleansed us. He put His Spirit and His own breath within us. And in spite of our numerous weaknesses, inconsistencies, and almost incessant failures, He somehow stays with us, works in us, and finally, after a lifetime of blessings, brings us to live forever in His presence.

Then, after all that, He rewards us - as if we had ever done anything worth rewarding! Now that is profoundly ridiculous!

But perhaps more ridiculous is the idea that we could ever reward God or enrich Him in any way.

As His children, are there any ways in which we can reward God?

How could your children best reward you? We joke about them becoming wealthy and supporting us, but that's not the kind of thanks or satisfaction we want from our kids. What could your kids do? How could they bring you pleasure?

Maybe these same rewards would please our Heavenly Father.

- 1. Your children could willingly spend special times with you. As parents, we want to enjoy their company and share their lives.
- 2. Simple, sincere expressions of love and appreciation mean a lot. Children take so much for granted. How gratifying it is to see them realize how much you love them and do for them and take the initiative to thank you.
- 3. What a pleasure it would be for them to do what they are asked to do, willingly and without complaint. We would consider it an expression of trust, goodwill, and submission.
- 4. The greatest reward would be to see them mature into responsible adults, growing beyond their childish self-centeredness. We long for them to give their lives for something worthwhile, to find pleasure in serving others, not just themselves. What could possibly bring a parent more satisfaction than that?

Would you like to reward your Heavenly Father for all He's done? Read back through the list above and decide today how you will show Your love for Him. Like any parent, He's waiting to hear from you.

Hymn recording: As Simply as a Child

As Simply as a Child

TUNE: Jesus Loves Me *Genesis 1; Psalm 18:1; 50:12; 116:12-13; 131:1-2; Matthew 22:36-38; Hebrews 11:3*



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Scripture Stories of Active Worshipers

(NASB)

Matthew 26:6-13

Now when Jesus was in Bethany, at the home of Simon the leper, a woman came to Him with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at the table.

But the disciples were indignant when they saw this, and said, "Why this waste? For this perfume might have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor."

But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you bother the woman? For she has done a good deed to Me. For you always have the poor with you; but you do not always have Me. For when she poured this perfume on My body, she did it to prepare Me for burial. Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of in memory of her."

Mark 12:41-44

[Jesus] sat down opposite the treasury, and began observing how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums.

A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."

Luke 10:38-42

Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word. But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me."

But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

Luke 19:1-10

[Jesus] entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man called by the name of Zaccheus; he was a chief tax collector and he was rich. Zaccheus was trying to see who Jesus was, and was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He was about to pass through that way.

When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house." And he hurried and came down and received Him gladly. When they saw it, they all began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner."

Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Which Worshipers Pleased Jesus?

John the Baptist (Luke 3:1-20; 7:18-35)—He responded to God's Word boldly and wholeheartedly, with singleness of mind.

The woman with the alabaster jar (Matthew 26:6-13)—She loved Jesus so much that she poured out on Him the very best she had.

The Canaanite woman (Matthew 15:21-28)—Out of love for her suffering daughter, she humbled herself and refused to be deterred from seeking Jesus' help. Her faith and perseverance secured her daughter's healing.

"His mother and brothers" (Luke 8:19-21)—Jesus said that His mother and brothers were anyone who heard God's Word and put it into practice.

The centurion in Capernaum (Luke 7:1-10)—Even in the most pressing need, he trusted Christ's authority simply and humbly.

Mary, Martha's sister (Luke 10:38-42)—She put aside everything else and sat at Jesus' feet, listening to what He said. Jesus said she had chosen "the good part".

Children (Matthew 19:13-14)—Jesus said the kingdom of heaven belongs to those who come to God as little children.

The Samaritan leper (Luke 17:11-19)—When the 10 lepers were healed on their way to the priest, he alone turned around and came back to thank Jesus.

The widow with her offering (Mark 12:41-44)—Her offering was completely insignificant in human terms, but Jesus said that in God's eyes, her gift was the greatest. She lovingly and humbly gave everything she had.

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)—He put his repentance into action, giving away his wealth to the needy and to those he had wronged.

The twelve apostles (Matthew 19:28-30)—Most were common working people, with faith and understanding that were often imperfect. But Jesus said that because they had left all to follow Him, they would reign with Him on twelve thrones, judging the tribes of Israel.

The thief on the cross (Luke 23:39-43)—While everyone around was sneering at Jesus, the criminal humbly trusted Him and thereby secured a place with Him in paradise.

Which worshipers pleased Jesus? Those who expressed their faith and love by their actions.

Hymn recording: My Life, My Love, My Joy

My Life, My Love, My Joy

TUNE: This Is My Father's World (TERRA BEATA)

Psalm 25:8-10; Isaiah 11:9; Habakkuk 2:14;

1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Galatians 5:22-23



WORDS: Ken Bible, inspired by *The Odes of Solomon, Ode 7* MUSIC: Traditional English Melody

TERRA BEATA S.M.D.

Psalm 23

(NASB)

The Lord is my shepherd,

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;

He guides me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I fear no evil, for You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You have anointed my head with oil;

My cup overflows.

Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life,

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

You Are with Me

He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. (1 Thessalonians 5:10, NIV)

Lord, I'm weary,

but You are with me.

Uncertainties about the future rattle around inside me,

but You are with me.

I am inconsistent,

but You are with me, and I am in You...right now, Lord.

I can praise You.

I can be joyful in You.

I can please You and

talk with You.

I can sing to You or

just be quiet here before You.

Thank You, Lord. Praise to You!

Hymn recording: Almighty God Is Near!

Almighty God Is Near!

A Responsive Hymn based on Philippians 4:4-7



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

PHILIPPIANS 4 8.8.8.6.w.Ref.

Scriptures on God Drawing Us to Himself

(NASB)

Psalm 145:18

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.

Jeremiah 31:3

I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.

John 6:44

[Jesus said,] "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."

John 12:32

[Jesus said,] "I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."

Hebrews 4:16

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

James 4:8

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

God Is Drawing Us to Himself

```
Do you hear God's Word continually prodding you?
It is urging you to
       give thanks to Him!
       Sing to Him!
       Rejoice in Him!
       Praise Him!
       Trust Him!
       Hope in Him!
       Delight in Him!
Do you hear God calling?
God is calling us to Himself.
He is the source of
       all life.
       all love,
       all blessing,
       all that is good for
             heart and soul,
             mind and body.
So out of a deep longing for our very best, He is
       pursuing us,
       inviting us,
       eagerly drawing us to Himself.
If you want all the riches that life offers,
       seek the God who is seeking you.
Talk to Him.
       Walk with Him.
       Confide in Him.
       Love Him.
       Follow Him.
Turn yourself toward
      your Source,
      your Father,
      your God.
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Hymn recording: Psalm 33

Psalm 33



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Christ Is Our Feast

Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
And you who have no money come, buy and eat.
Come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without cost.
"Why do you spend money for what is not bread,
And your wages for what does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good,
And delight yourself in abundance.
(Isaiah 55:1-2, NASB)

Jesus Christ is the banquet our Father spreads for all His children.

His life,

His love,

His holiness,

His truth,

His peace,

His Spirit, and

His relationship with the Father

are the nourishment we all need and crave.

Come daily,

hourly,

constantly, and

feast on Him by simple faith.

Don't look past His provision and

spend yourself chasing

what can never satisfy.

Jesus Christ is the Bread of Heaven.

He is the Water of Life.

Hymn recording: The Feast Is Spread

The Feast Is Spread

Matthew 22:1-14; Luke 14:16-24



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