Wholehearted

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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I Am from You

Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (Genesis 2:7, NASB)

God, in a way, our relationship is private and personal, one that You and I share alone. It's an organic relationship, as fundamental as my substance, as my existence. I am from You.

I turn back to You now as demands leave me uncertain and seeking support. I am from You.

I don't just have my source in You. I'm not a child now seeking independence. I am a part of You once ripped away, now seeking reunion. You are life, and I am alive. You are reality, and I exist. You are air, and I am one breath.

Father, I am from You. Make us one again, I pray.

Hymn recording: Created for Union with God



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Nothing Else Matters

[Jesus said,] *"I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."* (John 6:38, NASB)

Over the years I have worried about so many things:

spouse, children, car, mechanical malfunctions around the house, job, success, ...and so many more.

All these concerns

come and go. But only one thing is of primary importance,

continual importance,

eternal importance:

Your will, Father.

Every day,

amid the barrage of problems big and small,

this is the cry of my heart:

"Father, Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10, para.)

As so many other desires flare up and quickly fade away, this is my greatest longing, my deepest desire, my most fervent prayer: Your will, Father.

Only You can make everything right. Nothing else matters, Lord. Nothing but You.

Hymn recording: Nothing Else Matters

Nothing Else Matters

Matthew 6:9-10; John 4:34



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

NOTHING ELSE MATTERS 8.11.11.8.

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An Undivided Heart

Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. (Psalm 86:11, NIV)

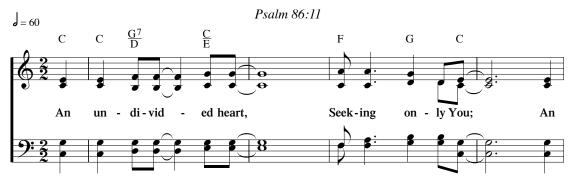
Father, I am so easily distracted. Success, failure, abundance, need, pride, and insecurity can either draw me away from you or bring me running, kneeling to You and longing for You.

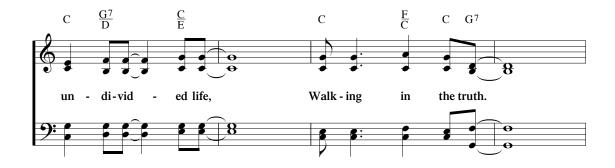
Father, though my mind wanders, give me an undivided heart and a life wholly devoted to You.

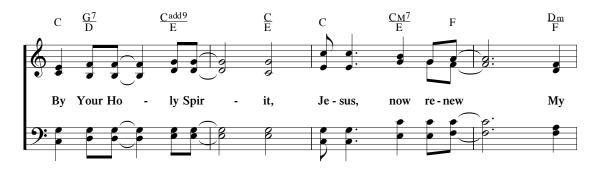
Father, help me to always live in response to You, not in response to the troubles, temptations, or distractions of the world around me.

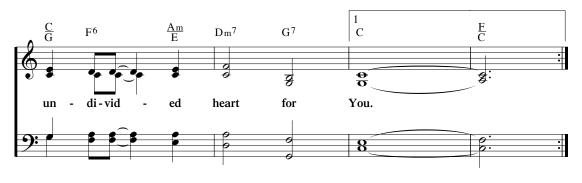
Hymn recording: An Undivided Heart







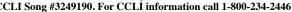


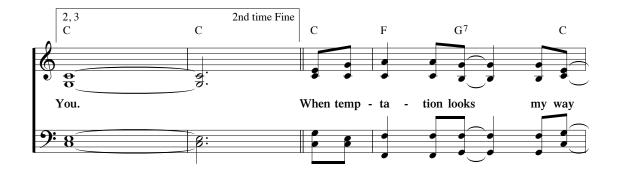


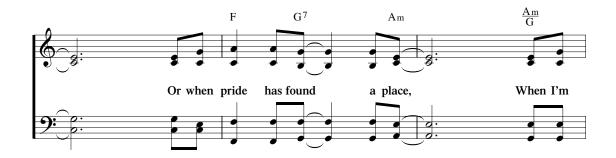
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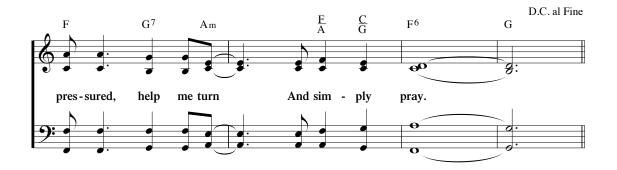
PSALM 86:11 Irregular

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As I Begin to Pray

With You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light. (Psalm 36:9, NASB)

Father,
as I walk through this false and foolish world,
reshape my false and foolish thoughts
by Your reality,
by the beautiful truth of all You are.

Help me see You and

know You

in Your transcendence.

Purify my desires

by the holy breath of Your Spirit.

Keep me joyful

in the unending flow of Your pure goodness.

Give me peace

in the assurance of Your never-failing love.

Flood my being

with the light of Your unspeakable greatness.

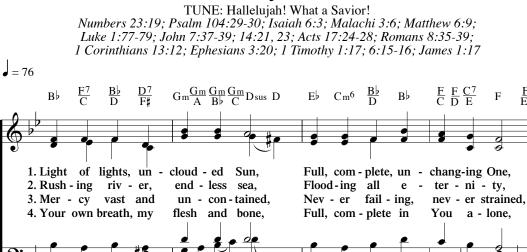
Give me a heart and mind that are conscious of Your presence and

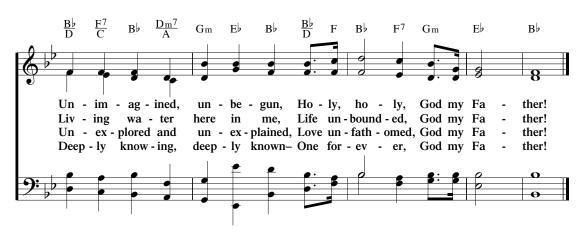
are fully responsive to You, my Father.

Make me like Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Hymn recording: God My Father

God My Father





WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss; arr. by Ken Bible

HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR! 7.7.7.8.

F E♭

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Father, Only You

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me." (John 4:34, NASB)

In all my thinking, all my needing, all my trying, all my trusting, all my dreaming, all my doing, all my hurting, all my hoping, Father, only You.

Hymn recording: Draw My Desires to You, Lord





I Desire Only You

O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; *My* soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You. (Psalm 63:1, NASB) Father, I desire only You. I trust only You. I worship only You. I seek only You. In the morning, as I rise to work, I desire only You. As I drive to work, with time to think or listen, I desire only You. At work, with decisions to be made, I desire only You. As I come home from work, weary, where I have desired and sought relaxation. I desire only You. In spare moments, as I face each decision, each task, I desire only You. Facing the future, in my home, in my ministry, in my daily life, I desire only You. Beautiful Father, Eternal Father, Almighty, Loving, Holy Father, in whom I live and move and have my being, I desire only You.

I am Your child. I ask only one thing. Father, I desire only You.

Father, we are like children who ignore an incredible gift from a parent because it is beyond their childish desires. We lower our heads and cling to our toys. If only we realized what it means to share Your life!

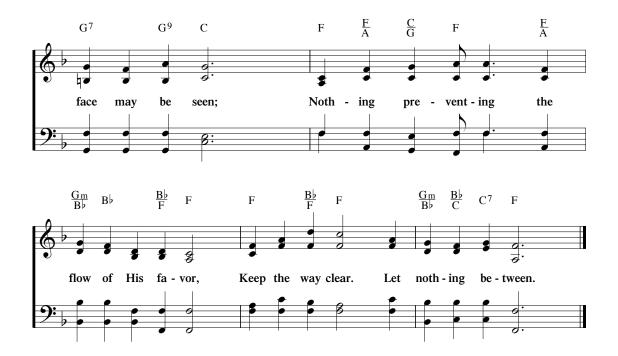
Hymn recording: Nothing Between

Nothing Between

Matthew 5:29-30; 18:8-9; Mark 9:43-48



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Creator

You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them. (Psalm 139:13-16, NASB)

Creator,

Father, I am Yours life, breath, mind, energy, spirit and body, past and future, I am entirely Yours. Conceived by Your love, knit together by Your infinite wisdom, born and cradled by Your power, I am the child of Your very being, O Lord of all.

You love me. Father God, before the mountains could witness it, You invested yourself in me. You devoted yourself to my needs. Driven by love, You held nothing back now, then, always. I don't understand it, but everything around me says it is so the air, my food and water, every pattern and color, every conversation with a friend. Reminders flood my senses from birth through death. Creator, Father, Your glory invites me to come and know You, and prodded by my needs, my failures and anxieties, I look up to You. I hunger for You. Father, fulfill in me that unhindered relationship that Your love has always craved, that Your wisdom would patiently teach, that Your wisdom would patiently teach, that Your power can provide. Draw my life energies into yourself, the Source and Goal of all I am. Enable me to become all I can become, to grow, to learn, to discover and aspire, but all *in You* and *unto You*.

Creator, Father, nurture that trust within me. Nurture that love.

Hymn recording: Hungry for God



Nothing but You

Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth. (Psalm 73:25, NASB)

Lord, I have so many goals. There's so much I want to accomplish. There's so much I want to have and enjoy. There are so many areas in which I'd like to improve.

But You seem to challenge me to simply enjoy You more and more as the days go by.

When I'm following You, I know I'm walking the right direction.

When I turn to You and talk to You, life is full, and life is sweet.

Lord, this is my one goal: to enjoy You more and more as the days go by.

> Father, outside of You, human beauty is a passing mist, a mirage. Your beauty grows deeper, richer, and more real the more we know You and trust You.

Hymn recording: You Are Near, O Lord

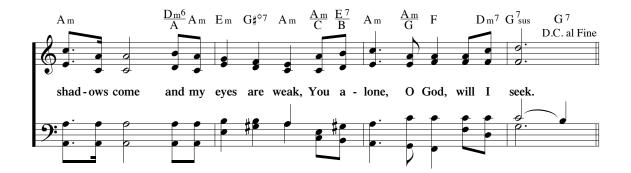
You Are Near, O Lord

Psalm 119:147-148, 151



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Psalm 90

(NASB)

Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

You turn man back into dust And say, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it passes by, Or as a watch in the night. You have swept them away like a flood, they fall asleep; In the morning they are like grass which sprouts anew. In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew; Toward evening it fades and withers away.

For we have been consumed by Your anger And by Your wrath we have been dismayed. You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence. For all our days have declined in Your fury; We have finished our years like a sigh. As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away. Who understands the power of Your anger And Your fury, according to the fear that is due You? So teach us to number our days, That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.

Do return, O Lord; how long will it be? And be sorry for Your servants. O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness, That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make us glad [q]according to the days You have afflicted us, And the years we have seen evil. Let Your work appear to Your servants And Your majesty to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; And confirm for us the work of our hands; Yes, confirm the work of our hands.

Focus on God

Do you want to spend your life wisely? Do you want to stay humble and not become the victim of foolish pride? Do you want to remember your true glory as a God-made individual? In short, do you want to maintain a true perspective in the constant push and pull and deception of daily life?

Keep your eyes on God. Practice simple prayer throughout the day. Turn to Him and trust Him in every need. Thank Him immediately for every blessing and every little joy. Nurture your relationship with Him.

> For with You is the fountain of life. When we see You, we see everything else more clearly. (Psalm 36:9, para.)

Our past, our present, our future are all in Him. The only way to keep life in focus is to keep God in focus.

> Do you want to know God better? Read about Him. Talk with Him. Trust Him. As you trust Him, you will know Him. As you know Him, you will trust Him.

Hymn recording: I Fix My Thoughts on You

I Fix My Thoughts on You

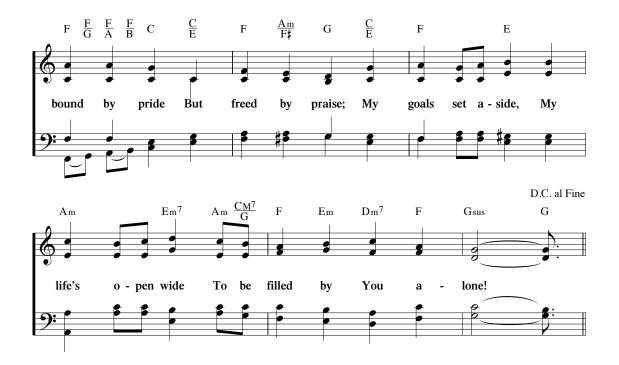
Psalm 141:8a; Hebrews 12:2

Resolutely, with confidence $\bullet = 84$



Irregular

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Feed the Fire

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. (Paul to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:6, NIV)

God lights a fire within us – the fire of His Spirit, the fire of His power and love within. But starve any fire – deprive it of oxygen or fuel – and it will quickly die.

Feed the fire. Nurture that life-giving relationship. Respond to Him in faith and obedience. Listen for His gentle whispers. Answer when He calls. Tell Him how much you need Him. Tell Him how much you love Him. Give Him top priority every day. Put to death old habits and start new ones. Thank Him every time He blesses you. Come to Him quickly with every concern. Serve Him eagerly,

with gratitude and enthusiasm.

Read His Word. Talk to Him. Trust Him. Praise Him. Feed the fire.

> Father, You want my life to be constantly interwoven with rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks. May they fill my heart and mind and mouth all day today!

Hymn recording: Psalm 1





MUSIC: The Southern Harmony, 1835, and Ken Bible

PROMISED LAND 2 C.M.

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Lead Me Out, Lord

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden light. (Matthew 11:28-30, NASB)

Lord, thank You for calling me to a deeper, more peaceful place in You.

I don't want my life to be encompassed by my fears, my ignorance, and my own comforts. Lead me out, Lord. Lead me out further into Christ, into Yourself,

into a life encompassed by love, trust, and single-minded devotion to You.

Revise my life. Rewrite it freely. Renew it in Your image. Lead, my Lord, and I will follow.

> Don't squander your life on shallow and temporary stimulations. It's not enough to FEEL better. You can BE better. You can breathe the life and love of God.

Hymn recording: Lord, Draw Me On

