

# **RETREAT SONGS**

#### JESUS ONLY IS OUR MESSAGE

1. Jesus only is our Message, Jesus all our theme shall be, We will lift up Jesus ever, Jesus only will we see.

> Jesus only, Jesus ever, Jesus all in all we sing; Saviour, Sanctifier, Healer, Baptizer and coming King.

- Jesus only is our Saviour, All our guilt He bore away, All our righteousness He gives us, All our strength from day to day.
- 3. Jesus is our Sanctifier, Cleansing us from self and sin, And with all His Spirit's fulness, Filling all our hearts within.
- 4. Jesus only is our Healer, All our sicknesses He bare, And His risen life and fulness, All His members still may share.
- 5. Jesus only is our Power, He's the gift of Pentecost, Jesus, breathe Thy Power upon us, Fill us with the Holy Ghost.
- 6. And for Jesus we are waiting Listening for the trumpet's sound Then it will be us and Jesus, Living ever with our God.

#### **CHRIST JESUS HATH THE POWER**

 Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, The power to forgive, The pow'r to quicken whom He will, And make the sinner live. Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, O tell it far and near! O bring to Him your guilty heart, And grace shall banish fear!

> Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, The pow'r of God He wields! Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, My heart surrender yields! Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, I trust Him ever-more! Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, I worship and adore!

2	<ul> <li>Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, The power to renew, The pow'r to cleanse your heart from sin, And make you wholly true. Christ Jesus hath the pow'r For evermore to keep: O none can pluck you from His hand, Or rob Him of His sheep!</li> </ul>
3	<ul> <li>Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, The power to console, The pow'r to carry all your care - On Him your burdens roll. Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, To wipe the tear away; O place in Him your confidence! O trust Him, and obey!</li> </ul>
4	<ul> <li>Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, The power to destroy, The pow'r to bruise your enemy Who would your soul annoy. Christ Jesus hath the pow'r, When on your dying bed, To give your soul the victory, The pow'r to raise the dead!</li> </ul>
<u>T</u>	HY WORD HAVE I HID IN MY HEART
1	Thy Word is a lamp to my feet, A light to my path alway; To guide and to save me from sin, And show me the heavenly way.
	Thy word have I hid in my heart, That I might not sin against Thee, That I might not sin, that I might not sin Thy word have I hid in my heart.
2	<ul> <li>Forever, O Lord, is Thy word</li> <li>Established and fixed on high;</li> <li>Thy faithfulness unto all men</li> <li>Abideth forever nigh.</li> </ul>
3	<ul> <li>At morning, at noon and at night</li> <li>I ever will give Thee praise;</li> <li>For Thou art my portion, O Lord,</li> <li>And shall be through all my days!</li> </ul>
4	Thro' Him whom Thy Word hath foretold, The Saviour and Morning Star, Salvation and peace have been bro't To those who have strayed afar.
<u>T</u>	HERE IS VICTORY WITHIN MY SOUL
1	There is vict'ry within my soul For the Spirit with me abides, Let the waves of temptation roll, Jesus keeps me whate'er betides.

Victory, Victory, Vict'ry in my soul, I have glorious victory Since Jesus took control, Victory, Victory, sweeping like a flood, I have glorious victory thro' Jesus' blood.

- 2. Tho' the conflict be fierce and long, Tho' the tempter my heart assail, In my weakness yet I am strong, For with Jesus I'll e'er prevail.
- I have victory over sin, I have victory o'er grave; Even death now has lost its sting, Halleluyah I know I'm saved.

#### CHRIST, OUR MIGHTY CAPTAIN

1. Christ, our mighty Captain, leads against the foe; We will never falter when He bids us go; Tho' His righteous purpose we may never know, Yet we'll follow all the way.

> Forward! forward! 'tis the Lord's command, Forward! forward! to the promised land; Forward! forward! let the chorus ring: We are sure to win with Christ our King!

- 2. Satan's fearful onslaughts cannot make us yield, While we trust in Christ, our Buckler and our Shield; Pressing ever on - the Spirit's sword we wield, And we follow all the way.
- 3. Let our glorious banner ever be unfurled-From its mighty stronghold evil shall be hurled; Christ, our mighty Captain, overcomes the world, And we follow all the way.
- 4. Fierce the battle rages, but 'twill not be long, Then triumphant - shall we join the blessed throng, Joyfully uniting in the victor's song-If we follow all the way.

## WILL THERE BE ANY STARS?

 I am thinking today of that beautiful land I shall reach when the sun goeth down; When thro' wonderful grace by my Saviour I stand, Will there be any stars in my crown?

> Will there be any stars, any stars in my crown, When at evening the sun goeth down? When I wake with the blest, in the mansions of rest, Will there be any stars in my crown?

- 2. In the strength of the Lord let me labour and pray, Let me watch as a winner of souls; That bright stars may be mine in the glorious day, When His praise like the sea billows roll.
- 3. O what joy will it be when His face I behold, Living gems at His feet to lay down; It would sweeten my bliss in the city of gold, Should there be any stars in my crown?

# BIBLE STUDY 1

### LOOKING UNTO JESUS

Hebrews 12:1-4

Hebrews chapter eleven highlights the examples of the faith of those who had run the race before us. Each of us should re-read and study the faith-lives of men and women mentioned in that chapter to revitalize and increase our faith in the Lord.

This chapter begins by looking back at the "**great cloud of witnessess**" in the previous chapter. It goes further to encourage us to look up to Jesus, "**the author and finisher of our faith**". We are to look forward to our eternal rewards lest we become weary and faint in our minds. The Christian life is a race and we must run the race, determined to win. The new birth experience brings us to the beginning of the race. As we constantly get rid of hindrances and encumbrances in our lives, we must pray daily for more grace to run without falling or failing God.

As believers, we must keep on looking unto Jesus. Disappointments and discouragement could come if we focus our attention on any man. Our victory in consistent Christian living will be maintained only as we keep on looking unto Jesus. He is our Saviour and perfect Example. Looking unto Him, we cannot fail or fall.

#### **1. ENCUMBRANCES TO RUNNING THE RACE**

Hebrews 12:1; Luke 8:14; 9:59-62; 21:34; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Timothy 6:9,10; 2 Timothy 2:4; 1 Peter 2:1; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

"Let us lay aside every weight... and let us run..." Being in the race himself, the writer calls all other believers to run with him. We are called to be free of dead weights and to run. Some legitimate things may weigh us down and hinder our spiritual progress. Get rid of such encumbrances and run properly - following the rules set by the Lord. There must be loyalty, faithfulness, stedfastness, determination and discipline, if we are to be approved by the Lord. There will be obstacles and there will be weariness and sometimes exhaustion but we must endure until we get to the finishing line if we are to win the crown.

What are the things that constitute barriers or hindrances to the Christian race? Things of this world, cares of the world, love of the world, love of money, and sins that so easily beset or entangle us will definitely hinder us from running well. The traditions of this world and things that make void the Word of God are great hindrances. Whatever has caused the backsliding of other Christians must be avoided. Whatever weakened or rendered us lukewarm in the past must be repented of and kept away from our lives.

#### 2. EXAMPLE OF CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER

Hebrews 12:2; Matthew 11:29; John 13:15; Philippians 2:5-8; 1 Peter 2:21; Hebrews 3:1; John 12:27; 1 Peter 2:22,23.

**"Looking unto Jesus**" constantly, with faith and consecration to be conformed unto His image is the secret of living to please the Lord. To run the race with patience, we must be fully occupied with the example of Christ in all things and at all times. **"Christ liveth in me"** (Galatians 2:20) and **"For to me to live is Christ**" (Philippians 1:21) should be our constant experience.

Because of the joy that was set before Him, Christ endured the Cross. He is our Example in "**enduring the cross**" and in "**despising the shame**". We can only endure the persecution, opposition, criticism, ill-treatment and suffering that come on us as we set the eternal rewards before us. The shame, ridicule and mockery of the world will be nothing to us if we meditate on the eternal weight of glory awaiting us. The anticipation of the glorious reward sustains the believer in the hour of temptation and trial.

#### **3. EXHORTATION TO THE REDEEMED**

*Hebrews* 12:3,4; 3:1; *Matthew* 10:24,25; *Luke* 4:28,29; *John* 9:24; *Proverbs* 24:10; 2 *Corinthians* 4:16-18; *Revelation* 2:10.

The early Christians faced fiery trials and persecutions that could have made them to give up their faith. These Hebrew Christians found themselves in the same situation. From the beginning of the Epistle, they were warned, exhorted and encouraged. Now, they were being exhorted to consider Christ who endured great contradiction and opposition from sinners. This exhortation is still for us today. Looking unto Jesus, considering Him in all our trials and persecutions, we shall not be wearied nor faint in our minds.

Only by constantly looking unto Jesus shall we continue striving against sin - fighting the good fight of faith courageously till the end.



# PURSUING PEACE AND HOLINESS

Hebrews 12:14

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). The exhortation contained here is central and pivotal to the message of the whole Bible. The challenge is for everyone who desires to see the Lord at the end of his Christian race on earth. The pursuit of "**peace and holiness**" requires God's grace and divine operation in man's heart. The natural, unregenerated man does not have peace with God; he does not have peace within himself, neither does he know how to maintain peace with his fellow men. Hearing the "**gospel of peace**" (Romans 10:15), he is brought to repentance and faith in Christ, "**the Prince of Peace**" (Isaiah 9:6). It is only then he will have "**peace with God**" (Romans 5:1) who Himself is "**the God of peace**" (Hebrews 13:20). This encounter with the Lord makes him a child of God, which makes him also a "**son of peace**" (Luke 10:6).

So, the true believer is to **"follow peace with all men**", but his pursuit does not end there. He is also to pursue **"holiness**". This holiness is the gift of God to His own. With a strong desire for the nature of God in him, he pursues and prays for a purified heart, a heart that is made holy. Being sanctified, he continues to seek to live in holiness as a practical expression of his sanctification in Christ. Our holiness must not be in word or doctrine only. We must demonstrate practical, biblical holiness in our daily life, at work, at home; in our relationship with God as well as our relationship with all men.

#### **1. DESIRE FOR PEACE**

Hebrews 12:14; Galatians 5:22,23; Luke 1:77,79; Romans 12:18;14:19; Genesis 13:7-9; Ephesians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:15; James 3:17,18; 1 Peter 3:8-11.

Strife and contention are natural for those who have not been converted to Christ. There is a radical change in our hearts and lives when we receive Christ and His salvation. Though we are still in the world, in the midst of those who hate the narrow way to heaven, those who follow the broad way to hell, those who hate and persecute us, we are to **"follow peace with all men"**. We live amidst men whose modes of thinking and acting are very different and opposed to ours, yet we are to do everything that lies in our power, consistent with truth and holiness, to live in peace with our ungodly neighbours. Though we maintain our stand and avoid compromise at all cost, we live in peace, avoid quarrels and strife. "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it" (Psalm 34:14).

The Greek word for "**follow**" means "**earnestly pursue**". The Christian is to spare no effort to live peacefully with all men, no matter how contentious and unfriendly they may be. With God's grace in us, exercising and manifesting the Spirit of Christ, we must do all that is necessary to promote the happiness of others and maintain peace. We must be humble and gracious to all people around us and let love reign in all we do to others. Then are we truly the children of God (Matthew 5:9).

#### 2. DILIGENCE IN HOLINESS

Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15,16; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Romans 6:22; Luke 1:75; Leviticus 11:45; 2 Timothy 2:21; 1 Thessalonians 2:10; 3:13; 4:7; 5:22-24; 2 Peter 3:11.

**'Follow peace with all men, and holiness**." Aiming at, pursuing and maintaining peace with all men is not sufficient; we must be diligent in pursuing, possessing and manifesting holiness. There is holiness of life immediately we are born again because real conversion makes us new creatures in Christ and we live in newness of life. Yet there is inward purity or inner holiness or definite experience of sanctification that we seek to receive through prayer, consecration and faith. Being sanctified and made holy, we **'follow holiness**", practical holiness of life in all we do or desire. As important as it is to **"follow peace with all men**", it is more important that we diligently pursue **"holiness**".

This "**holiness**" is devotedness to God, conformity to the image of Christ, unreserved, uncompromising obedience to our Lord and Master, purity of heart and possession of the Divine nature. We must not rest until we are so cleansed by the Blood of Jesus Christ and become purified and holy. This holiness of heart and life must not be compromised even if others oppose it and oppose us. An old-time preacher once said, '*It is infinitely better to have the whole world for our enemies and God for our Friend, than to have the whole world for our friends and God for our Enemy*'. Remember God's unchanging Word: "Follow peace with all men, and HOLINESS, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).

## 3. DETERMINATION TO SEE GOD

Hebrews 12:14; Job 33:26; Isaiah 33:15-17; Revelation 21:27; 22:3,4; Psalm 24:3,4; Matthew 5:8; 1 John 3:2,3.

To show how important and indispensable holiness is, the Apostle says, "without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12;14). The word "which" in Greek is in the singular, showing that it is referring to holiness. The emphasis of the text is that "without holiness no man shall see the Lord". But how about peace? If you have holiness you will manifest or possess all the peace that God desires - the kind of peace that Christ manifested. Some may try to live in peace with all men by forfeiting holiness but you cannot live in holiness without also living in Christlike peace. Holiness is essential if you want to see God and live with Him in eternity.

Unless we are made partakers of His holiness, unless we are holy as He has commanded, unless we are fully consecrated to God in obedience to Him continually, we cannot enter into His presence in heaven. There is only one way which leads to heaven, and it is the Highway of Holiness (Isaiah 35:8). Any other way will end in hell.

2014 EASTER RETREAT PROGRAMME	e Revival Session m 7.30-9.00pm	A night to be remembered	t In the steps of the Saviour	The monthly Miracle – Revival Programme	
	Evening Message 5.45 - 7.15pm	Living in His Victory	Bridle the beast in the body	TF Mira P	s victory
	Evening Message 4.00-5.30pm		Keep the victory: yield not to temptation	Turning trials into triumph	Reigning through His victory
	Bible Study 12.30-2.00pm		<u>Bible Study I</u> Looking unto Jesus Hebrews 12:1–4	<u>Bible Study II</u> Pursuing peace and holiness Hebrews 12:14	Reigning
	Bible Teaching 10.45 -12.15pm		Consecration before conquest	The pathway to power	
	Morning Message 9.00 - 10.30am		The voice of victory: "Go and sin no more"	Ready, well-dressed for His return	The monthly Miracle – Revival Programme
	Faith Clinic 7.00 - 8.00am		Confronting and conquering the giants	Help from on high	The r Miracle Prog
	Day & Date	Thursday April 17	Friday April 18	Saturday April 19	Sunday April 20