



# #GRACEWINS

PRAISE & WORSHIP FOR CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

## DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

by Nan Allen

## **“THIS IS AMAZING GRACE”**

This song begins with two questions:

- 1) “Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?”
- 2) “Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?”\*

Read I Corinthians 15:55-57 to find the answer.

The second half of Verse 1 asks two more questions:

- 1) “Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?”
- 2) “Who leaves us breathless, in awe and wonder?”\*

Read Psalm 29:1-4 to find the answer.

Although the song lyrics answer these questions with “The King of glory, the King above all kings,”\* the Scriptures give even more ways that God demonstrates His power. What are they?

Now read Romans 5:8. What else does God demonstrate or prove?  
How does He do it?

Pray that you will be the living proof of God’s amazing grace and love.

\*Words by Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle, and Phil Wickham

© Copyright 2012 Bethel Music (ASCAP) (admin. by Bethel Music Publishing)/Seems Like Music (BMI)/Sing My Songs (BMI)/Phil Wickham Music (BMI) (all admin. by Music Services, [www.musicservices.org](http://www.musicservices.org))/WB Music Corp. (ASCAP)/FBR Music (ASCAP)/Josh’s Music (ASCAP) (all admin. by Warner Chappell Music). All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #6333821

## **“JESUS, THE ANTHEM”**

Read Psalm 57:9. This is a declaration to the Lord that the psalmist will do what?

Read Psalm 104:33. How long will these declarations last?

Ephesians 5:15-21 encourages us to walk in the ways of the Lord. Read the verses and note what the apostle Paul advises us to do as we walk.

Pray that God will use you to walk in His ways so that others will see *His* good works.

## **“O PRAISE HIM! ALLELUIA!”**

Psalm 66 is a “call to worship.” Read this chapter and list all of the ways the psalmist encourages us to worship.

How many of these methods of worship have you experienced?

Ask God to show you ways to worship Him daily.

## **“HOLY SPIRIT”**

Read John 16:7-16. Jesus is talking to His disciples at the last supper. He tells them that He is going away soon, but that He will send the Spirit in His place. What does Jesus call the Holy Spirit in these verses? (Various translations of the Bible call Him different names.)

What will the Holy Spirit do, according to Jesus’ words in this passage?

In Romans 15:13, Paul prays over the readers of this letter. What does he pray?

Read I Corinthians 2:10-13. In these verses, what role does the Holy Spirit play in the lives of believers?

What place does the Holy Spirit have in your life? Does He speak to your heart? Does He give you peace, joy, and hope?

Ask the Holy Spirit to give you power and insight every day.

## **“IT IS WELL”**

Many of you have heard the story behind this hymn lyric; however, it bears repeating.

Horatio Spafford was a Chicago businessman in the late 1800s. In 1871, a fire ravaged Chicago, destroying most of Spafford’s property. During this crisis, Horatio sent his wife and four daughters on a ship to England, promising to join them soon. During the first journey, the ship hit another vessel and sank in the Atlantic Ocean. All of his daughters died. Mrs. Spafford survived, but was distraught over their loss. Her husband immediately boarded another ship for England and, while at sea, Mr. Spafford asked the captain to stop approximately where the ship carrying his family had gone down. It was at that spot that he wrote:

“When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
‘It is well, it is well with my soul.’”

Mr. Spafford had apparently read and embraced the following Scriptures: James 1:12, Psalm 4:8, Psalm 62:1, and Isaiah 41:13.

Read and meditate over these verses, remembering the story of Horatio Spafford, who had his faith truly tested.

Ask God to give you peace, comfort, and courage during rough times.

## **“HELLO, MY NAME IS”**

Read Ephesians 5:1-2. Read Romans 8:16-21. According to these verses, who are we to God? What do we inherit from Him?

Embrace these promises as you sing this song—and when you face satanic accusations, disappointments, and defeat.

Now read 1 John 3:1 and rejoice in what God has showered upon you.

## **“ONLY GRACE”**

In Isaiah 1:18, God says that our sins are wiped out when we become one of His children. What imagery does He use here to illustrate that?

Read Psalm 103:8-12. Where does God place our sins that He forgives? How far is that?

If you are dealing with guilt and shame from past sins, ask God to show you that He has forgiven you. Then accept His love, mercy, and forgiveness.

## **“HOW CAN IT BE?”**

Do you know what an advocate is? Read 1 John 2:1-2. Does this help you understand how Jesus “pleads your case”? If you are His child, then you have an advocate. Still don’t understand? Read 1 Timothy 2:5. Does this help?

Now read Romans 8:34. Pray that you can understand the concept of having a mediator/advocate—an intercessor through Jesus Christ.

## **“GRACE WINS”**

Jesus spoke some harsh words to those who did not believe in Him. What does He call these people in John 8:44? What does He call their father?

In 1 Peter 5:8, the father of lies is called something else. What is it?

Read James 4:7. What should you do when you are attacked by the Devil? Read a little further in 1 Peter, chapter five. What else must you do to combat Satan?

## “I AM”

Psalm 63:8

Psalm 139:7-10

Colossians 3:3

Hebrews 10:23

All of these passages contain words of assurance. Like the song lyrics illustrate, we have access as children of the Great I AM.

“There’s no space that His love can’t reach,  
There’s no place where we can’t find peace,  
There’s no end to amazing grace.  
Take me in with Your arms spread wide,  
Take me in like an orphan child,  
Never let go, never leave my side.

“I am holdin’ on to You.  
I am holdin’ on to You.  
In the middle of the storm,  
I am holdin’ on, I am.”\*

\*Words by Ed Cash and David Crowder

© Copyright 2013 Alletrop Music (BMI) (admin. by Music Services, [www.musicervices.org](http://www.musicervices.org))/Inot Music (ASCAP)/worshiptogether.com Songs (ASCAP)/sixsteps Music (ASCAP) (all admin. at [CapitolCMGPublishing.com](http://CapitolCMGPublishing.com)). All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #7011538

Be assured that God will never let you go. Reach for Him and find a Friend and Guide like no other!

## “WE BELIEVE”

This song is a statement of faith—a creed—by which we live. In the lyric, what are the beliefs that are mentioned?

Read Ephesians 4:4-6. How does this Scripture passage make the song come alive?

Read the words of Jesus found in Luke 6:47-49. This is a familiar parable. What comparisons does Jesus make to those who trust Him and those who do not?

Claim each of these beliefs, and pray that God will help you remember them (and reclaim them if necessary) all the days of your life.

### **“BLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE (MY KING IS COMING)”**

What is a foretaste of glory divine mentioned in the lyric of this song? In 2 Corinthians 5:15, Paul talks a little about it. Read the passage and see if the lyric makes sense now. Make notes here.

Verse 2 reminds us what perfect submission to Him will bring. Read all of Psalm 116. It is an outpouring of love and obedience to God. What are you discovering here?

Make this psalm your prayer of thanksgiving.

### **“BECAUSE HE LIVES (AMEN)”**

Read Romans 6:11. There is a comparison of life before and after Christ. What is it?

In Philippians 3:7-11, Paul makes another comparison. How does he express it?

Look how these Scripture verses are reflected in the verses of the song.

“I believe in the Son.  
I believe in the risen One.  
I believe I overcome  
By the power of His blood.

“I was dead in the grave.  
I was covered in sin and shame.  
I heard mercy call my name.  
He rolled the stone away.”\*

\*Words by Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher, and Chris Tomlin  
© Copyright 2014 Hanna Street Music (BMI)/worshiptogether.com Songs (ASCAP)/Worship Together Music (BMI)/sixsteps Music (ASCAP)/sixsteps Songs (BMI)/S.D.G. Publishing (BMI) (all admin. by [CapitalCMGPublishing.com](http://CapitalCMGPublishing.com))/Alletrop Music (BMI) (admin. by Music Services, [www.musicervices.org](http://www.musicervices.org))/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing (BMI)/I Am a Pilgrim Songs (BMI)/Sony/ATV Timber Publishing (SESAC)/Be Essential Songs (SESAC)/Open Hands Music (SESAC) (all admin. by Sony/ATV Music Publishing, Inc.). All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #7027887

This is a powerful message because the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the same power available to us when we are in Christ. Find this evidence in Ephesians 1:19-21.

## “DO SOMETHING”

When the prophet Isaiah heard God ask, “Who should I send?” and “Who will go for Us?” to tell the world about Him, what was Isaiah’s response? Find the answer in Isaiah 6:8.

Isaiah is quoted in Romans 10. Read verses 13-18. This message is pretty clear. We cannot be silent. We cannot just sit back and do nothing. As the song says,

“If not us, then who?  
If not me and you right now.  
It’s time for us to do somethin’.  
If not now, then when  
Will we see an end  
To all this pain?  
It’s not enough to do nothin’.  
It’s time for us to do somethin’!”\*

\*Words by Matthew West

© Copyright 2012 External Combustion Music (ASCAP)/Songs for Delaney (ASCAP)/Songs Of Southside Independent Music Publishing (ASCAP) (all admin. by Word Music Group, Inc. obo Warner Chappell Music, LLC). All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #6439976

As a teenager, you may not feel as though you can do much to combat the sin of the world, but you are wrong. God will show you, if you ask Him, how you can make a difference.