

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Scripture Reading:

¹⁰ Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

¹¹ Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. ¹² Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. ¹³ For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. ¹⁴ Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel” (Isa 41:10-14).

Introduction:

- A. The title of this lesson is “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” which is a Gospel song that was penned by Thomas A. Dorsey, Sr. in Chicago in 1932, out of a broken heart following the deaths of his wife (Nettie) during childbirth and newly born son (Thomas, Jr.).
- B. Dorsey was a soloist in a revival meeting (in St. Louis, MO) when he was given a telegram regarding the death of his wife. He returned home (Chicago, IL), to discovered that his son had died as well. Dorsey felt that God was unfair, had done him an injustice and he did not want to serve God any more or write Gospel songs. A few weeks later, in the midst of grief and a broken heart, Dorsey said, while at his piano, God gave him the words and melody to this song. He further stated that at this time, God healed his spirit, renewed his joy and he decided to live for God, willingly and joyfully until the day that God comes to take him home.
- C. Dorsey is known as “The Father of Black Gospel Music.” He was also considered as “The Father Of American Gospel Tradition.”
- D. In 1932, Dorsey who was an active member at Pilgrim Baptist Church in Chicago served as its Choir Director for over forty years.

Study Questions:

1. Have you ever felt that God was unfair or exhibited injustice toward you? If so, how did you become whole again – renewed joy and spirit?
2. Just how willingly or far will you go for Jesus in the midst of calamities and adversities?

Thoughts to Ponder:

⁸ The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. ⁹ The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works. ¹⁷ The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. ¹⁸ The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth” (Ps 145:8-9, 17-18).

E. “Precious Lord Take My Hand” was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr’s favorite song and he often invited Gospel Singer Mahalia Jackson to sing this song at Civil Rights rallies to inspire the crowds. This song was sung at the rally in Memphis, TN on the eve of Dr. Kings assassination and at his funeral.

- **Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.”**

We will study four Truths centered around the Gospel Son of this lesson from a Biblical perspective. Consider the following truths during times of fear, disappointment, death of loved ones, sickness, and hopelessness. Also, think of these truths when you felt that God has been unjust and has abandoned you: (1) God is Always Present; (2) Never Give Up; (3) Nothing Can Separate us from the Love of God; and (4) Jesus Cares For Us.

I. **God is Always Present** (Heb 13:5)

A. **God “will never leave thee nor forsake thee”**

- **Leave** – to desert, to give up, to let up
- **Forsake** – to abandon, to leave helpless, to leave in straits

1. God will not forsake us during afflictions, trials, and difficulties
2. God will not abandon us during the time and pain of Bereavement.
3. God will not forsake us when he entrusts us with great responsibilities.
4. God will not leave nor forsake us because He is merciful, gracious, longsuffering, and overflowing in goodness which cannot be exhausted. God is pleased to make us His people. Therefore, He will not forsake us for His name’s sake, because He has been pleased to make us His people.

B. **Believers** – God is with you, beside you, above you and inside you.

C. **Unbelievers** – God is in front of you, inviting you to accept His offer of Grace that He longs to give you - Salvation.

- “I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved” (Ps 16:8).
- “¹⁸The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. ¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all” (Ps 34:18-19).
- “And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed” (Deut 31:8).
- Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light
Take my hand, previous Lord, Lead me home.

II. **Never Give Up** (Ps 39:7)

“And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee” (Ps 39:7).

Continue to believe in God! Always trust in His Promises. Remember, you cannot do it without God. We are nothing without the Lord.

A. God is Our Helper (Heb 13:6)

B. Be of Good Courage – Our hope in the Lord is not in vain (Ps 31:24)

C. Wait on the Lord

- “Wait on the Lord be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord” (Ps 27:14).
- “I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope” (Ps 130:5).
- “But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint” (Isa 40:31).
- Johnny Fulton was run over by a car at the age of three. He suffered crushed hips, broken ribs, a fractured skull, and compound fractures in his legs. It did not look as if he would live. But he would not give up. In fact, he later ran the half-mile in less than two minutes.
- Walt Davis was totally paralyzed by polio when he was nine years old, but he did not give up. He became the Olympic high jump champion in 1952.

III. **Nothing Can Separate us from the Love of God** (Rom 8:35-39)

Based on this passage, there is no situation, no circumstance, no event, and no person that can cause Jesus to stop loving us. No matter how terrible or severe the situation, it cannot separate us from the love of God.

A. The Love of God is from Everlasting to Everlasting

- “The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee” (Jer 31:3).
- “But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children” (Ps 103:17).
- “O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever” (Ps 107:1).
- God loves us unconditional – regardless of the circumstances. His love is eternal. It never stops. Never has and never will.
- I’m telling you He loves you; I’m telling you He never gonna leave you. I’m telling you He loves you; I’m telling you He thinks the world of you.

- B.** Death cannot separate the Believer from the love of God – It will take us into His presence.
- “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord” (2 Cor 5:8).
 - “For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better” (Phil 1:23).
 - When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near
When my life is almost gone, Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
 - “We love him, because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19).

IV. Jesus Cares for Us (1 Pet 5:7)

“Casting all your care upon him; for He careth for you” (1 Pet 5:7).

“**Care**” – worry, anxiety, concern

A. “He careth for you” – It matters to Christ concerning you. Christ is concerned about you.

B. Paul told the Philippian Christians – Worry about nothing, pray about everything – take it to the Lord in prayer, letting your requests be known unto God (Phil 4:6).

C. “Casting all your care upon Him”

1. Christ will give you rest (Matt 11:28).
2. Christ will give you peace (John 14:27).
3. Christ will provide an escape from temptation (1 Cor 10:13).
4. Christ will provide comfort through all trial (2 Cor 1:3-4).
5. Christ will deliver you from fear (Isa 41:10).

- When the darkness appears, And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone, At the river I stand
Guide my feet, hold my hand
Take my hand, Precious Lord, Lead me home.

Conclusion:

A. Biblical truths centered around the Gospel Song – Precious Lord, take my hand.

1. God is Always Present
2. Never Give Up
3. Nothing Can Separate us from the Love of God
4. Jesus Cares for You

- “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Ps 46:1).
- “⁹The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. ¹⁰ And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee” (Ps 9:9-10).

B. Remember, cry out to Jesus for help during times of fear, death of loved ones, disappointment, temptation, problems, trials, tribulations and worries.

Memory Verse:

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Phil 4:13).

**From the Teaching Ministry of:
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“...the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).