

Abide With Me **John 14:18-24**

This Song Has Become My Close Companion

Reminder God can and will help His children through any trial saw me through some difficult days.

Death of love ones, sickness & disease, etc.

Listen to the complete poem this song is from:

Abide With Me - Henry Francis Lyte

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away; Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word, But as Thou dwell'st with Thy disciples, Lord, Familiar, condescending, patient, free. Come not to sojourn, but abide with me.

Come not in terror, as the King of kings, But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings; Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea. Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile, And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile, Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee. On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour. What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power? Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Each stanza reminds us that our struggle is easier when God is living in us.

Three stanzas, 3-5 are probably not familiar to you as they are not used in our song books. Though they might fit me more closely than I like, they may not fit well in the assembly for edification and encouragement.

Stanzas 1,2 & 6 are in our book. Last two are found in other hymn books I have used in the past. When darkness falls our troubles and woes may seem to overwhelm. When sickness and age sap our strength and joy, we feel vulnerable and weak. When we seem surrounded by wickedness and temptation, resistance may seem futile.

If We Have God In Our Life, These Things Are Much Easier To Overcome

The Psalmist tells us God is the same no matter what happens to us. We can find stability and shelter with Him - **Psalm 23; Psalm 102:25-28; Psalm 91**

God's promise to Moses and Israel - **Exodus 33:12-14**

This Help From God Is Conditional

Solomon - **1Kings 9:4-7**

The promise from Jesus - **John 15:4-10; John 14:23; Matthew 28:20**

We must follow His Word - **1John 2:4-6; 1John 3:24; 2John 9**

Fill our hearts and minds with God's Word - **Hebrews 13:5-6; Ephesians 5:18-20; 1John 4:13-16**

The Promise Is No Greater Help Than When We Face Death

May you find comfort and seek God's presence in your life in difficult times - **1Corinthians 15:55-58**

Remember He will answer call of His children, not those who turn their back to Him - **Isaiah 59:1-2**

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