

# Carry the Cross

By Chris Driesbach 2010

The Lord told his friends he would suffer and die  
To save them from the father of lies.  
But after three days he would be raised  
Take them to heaven, be with them always.

They didn't understand the things he said now  
But they wanted to follow, so he told 'em how-  
"Turn your back on this world, take up your cross,  
Come, follow me, whatever the cost."

## **Chorus:**

Carry the cross, be not ashamed  
Children of Christ! Shout out his name!  
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.  
Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross.

His cross redeems and ours is the way  
We drown the desires of our flesh every day.  
Our cross is the mark that says we're his own.  
The path of our cross is leading us home.

Speaking the truth isn't easy to do.  
He brought a sword- but he gives peace to you.  
Why gain the world and forfeit your soul?  
Carry the cross though it may be a lonely road.

## **(Chorus)**

He'll lift you up though your spirit is broken,  
Help you believe, help you keep hopin'.  
This life is short, and soon comes the day  
Heavenly wings will fly you away.

## **(Chorus)**

# **Wait**

By Chris Driesbach and Jayne Nitz 2010  
Inspired by a devotion by Pastor Mark Falck

Have you spent some time in God's waiting room?  
Have you cried with David, "How long?"  
Have you been like Jacob, wrestling in prayer?  
Have you emptied your heart in a psalm?

## **Chorus:**

Wait for the Lord  
When he hides his face  
When you have to go on, and live by faith.  
He'll give you the strength; he'll show you a way  
To wait.

Up in Shiloh, Hannah wept bitter tears.  
She had waited so long for a child.  
Isaiah waited on a vision of Christ  
And Job just waited to die.

## **(Chorus)**

Faith is being sure of what we hope for, and certain of things we cannot see.  
These are momentary troubles, when you're looking at eternity...

Joseph the dreamer was sold as a slave  
Awaiting his place in the sun.  
And the faithful watched as centuries rolled  
For the promised Messiah to come.

## **(Chorus)**

# He Saw the Light

By Chris Driesbach 2010

Now here's a little song about a guy named Saul.  
He was chasing down the Christians – he wanted to kill 'em all.  
While he was ridin' to Damascus high on his horse  
The Lord threw a lightning bolt that knocked him off course.  
(I guess our hero started having a BAD day, right then and there...)

So here's poor old Saul – just a-shakin' on the ground  
When he hears a mighty voice up high and all around.  
Jesus said, "Saul, why you persecutin' me?"  
Saul said, "Whoozzat? And hey, I can't see!"  
(But you know - God was gonna' give him a better kind of sight...)

## **Chorus:**

He saw the light! He saw the light  
It was the light of the world, though it gave him a fright.  
He's gonna' tell everybody all about Jesus Christ  
Shinin' so bright. He saw the light.

Well, Saul got up but it wasn't how he planned.  
He went to Damascus being led by the hand.  
He spent three days in fasting and prayer  
'Til God called Ananias to visit him there.  
(Told him to lay on hands and restore his sight...)

But Ananias said, "Lord! As soon as that guy can see  
I'll have bars on my window and chains around my feet.  
God said, "Nope. Now Saul's a pussycat.  
He's workin' for me – whatcha' think about that?  
(He won't be arresting my people any more...)

## **(Chorus)**

And that was just the start for our Brother Saul  
His lifestyle changed and he changed his name to Paul.  
He was filled with the Spirit and he didn't think twice  
He started in preachin' 'bout the Lord Jesus Christ.  
(Folks didn't always listen, though. Sometimes they ran him out of town!)

# Worth Dying For

By Jayne Nitz 2009

It's one of those days.  
I can't do anything right.  
Might as well go to bed  
Call it a night.  
Picking up after a fall  
Feeling stupid and worthless and small.

## **Chorus:**

But I'm worth dying for;  
These are the words of my God, my Lord.  
If I believe anyone, I believe him.  
And if I'm worth dying for  
What am I doing down on the floor  
When he lifted me high?  
And loved me so much he was willing  
To suffer and die.

Caught in between  
The old and new inside.  
I fight for the good but it's  
One long ride.  
When I'm always thinking about me,  
Jesus saves me and he... says

## **(Chorus)**

"I love you."  
That's what Jesus says,  
"My life for yours."... He says that...

## **(Chorus)**

# Who Was This Man?

By Chris Driesbach 2010

Prophets said he's walk this dusty land  
With no place to lay his head.  
Born in a stable to a virgin girl  
Though he was the Christ, and he was the Living Bread.

## **Chorus:**

Who was this man? The world did not understand.  
He was hated without cause.  
He came to save the lost by keeping all God's law  
And by his death upon a cross.

The blind could see, he brought the dead to life.  
He healed the sick, the deaf could hear again  
But they did not see he could heal their souls.  
He walked on water like it was the driest land.

He always said he'd die and rise again.  
He spoke clearly but they did not hear.  
His friends went to sleep while he prayed  
In the garden, in sadness, on the ground with blood and tears.

## **(Chorus)**

A traitor turned and sold him like a slave  
To Pharisees in Jerusalem.  
He was whipped and nailed to the tree.  
They mocked and taunted their Savior from their hearts of sin.

In three days on Easter he was raised-  
A guarantee of heaven for me.  
I'm just a sinner who could only die  
But his precious blood has washed me and set me free.

## **Last chorus:**

Now we understand he is the Son of Man.  
Our salvation is complete.  
He has saved the lost by dying on a cross.  
See the holes in his hands and feet.  
Jesus is the man!

# Like a Thief in the Night

By Jayne Nitz and Chris Driesbach

I know I will die. God only knows when.  
How, where or why - alone or with friends.  
The last day will come, and what will I see?  
An angry judge or a God who redeems?

## **Chorus:**

Like a thief in the night - no way to know when.  
I breathe in and out, but breathing will end.  
Satan is strong, but the victory's been won.  
Like a thief in the night, oh, come, Jesus, come.

It's all right to marry, to drink and to eat.  
Keep watching and waiting for his beautiful feet.  
Many will fall in fear, but Christians will stand.  
We'll lift up our heads. We'll lift up our hands.

It's so easy to fall, distracted by pleasure.  
Help me remember your grace is my treasure.  
When you roll up the sky, fire will pour.  
Angels don't know the day of the Lord.

## **Chorus:**

Like a thief in the night - no way to know when.  
I breathe in and out, but breathing will end.  
Satan is strong, but the victory's been won.  
Like a thief in the night - Our Death Conqueror will come!  
Like a thief in the night - My Deliverer will come!  
Like a thief in the night, oh, come, Jesus, come.

# David Just Had To Dance

By Jayne Nitz and Chris Driesbach 2008

Well, it was party time in Jerusalem  
'Cause the ark was comin' home again.  
King David gave thanks and after he prayed  
He said "I think it's time to have a parade."

It was a bash like a Mardi Gras.  
He declared ecclesiastical law,  
"If you can play or strum or got a voice to raise  
Then man, you better join in the praise."

So he put on his ceremonial clothes,  
Got himself a case of twinkle toes.  
He said, "You people on the sidelines – now here's your chance - why doncha'  
Run on home and jump into your dancin' pants!"

Yeah, sometimes you just got to dance.  
Sometimes you got to sing and clap your hands.  
His love for the Lord made his feet want to prance.  
King David just had – David just had to dance.

While he was shoutin' and a-leapin' around  
His wife put on a mean ole' frown.  
She looked out the window and she started to yell.  
She said "Boy you made a fool of yourself!

You know, you ain't actin' much like a king.  
You ain't wearin' hardly anything!"  
He said, "Baby, doncha' give me the reasons I can't.  
I love the Lord so much, hey Momma, I just got to dance.

Yeah, sometimes you got to dance.  
Sometimes you got to sing and clap your hands.  
He said "I'll do it again, when I get the chance."  
King David just had – David just had to dance.

## Beautiful Lies

By Jayne Nitz 2009

You can tell me a beautiful lie  
I'm tempted to believe.  
You can look me right in the eye  
With the power to deceive.  
You made a career  
Out of saying things my itching ears want to hear.

I remember well the words of a man  
Who left religion behind.  
He said he feels happier now,  
Convinced in his mind.  
More beautiful lies-  
They can get you to smile while your spirit withers and dies.

Get back behind me  
With your beautiful lies.  
You think you can fool me-  
I'm hiding my eyes.  
My only defense is  
The word of God in my hand.  
You're not gonna move me.  
Here I stand.

The Bible works like a sharpened sword  
When it points to our sin and shame,  
But like a baby's birth, it brings a new life  
And the joy covers the pain.  
So leave me alone, now.  
You gave it a try.  
But the truth is more beautiful  
Than your beautiful lie.

God's truth is more beautiful  
Than a beautiful lie.



# **Lift Me Up**

By Tom Mulinix 2005

He emptied my hands, and filled my heart.  
He brought me to my end, to give me a new start.  
He broke my spirit, to give me His.  
He willingly died, that I might live.

## **Chorus:**

So lift me up, as You have promised.  
I have no one to go to, Lord, but You.  
Raise my spirit out of this darkness.  
Help me to trust and keep my eyes on You.

He made me foolish, that I might be wise.  
He made me blind, to open up my eyes.  
He made me trust him, not lean on me.  
He's trying to teach me He's all I need.

## **(Chorus)**

He broke me, to make me whole.  
Took my possessions, made heaven my goal.  
Though I was shaking, my feet were on a rock.  
He is my shepherd. I'm a lamb in His flock.

## **(Chorus)**

## **Good Morning, Father**

By Jayne Nitz and Chris Driesbach 2008

Good morning, Father.  
Thank you for this day  
And thanks for loving me  
And for the early morning sunlight on my face.

Good morning, Father.  
I'm on my way again.  
As I walk through this world,  
May I walk the narrow path until it ends.

And hold a place  
In heaven for me.  
Show me how to do the things you put in front of me.

May I be kind and loving  
In all I do and say.  
Save me from my sins.  
Restore the joy within.  
Oh, let me be like him... for today.

And hold a place  
In heaven for me.  
Show me how to do the things you put in front of me.

Thank you for Jesus.  
I'm clinging to the cross again.  
Save me from my sins.  
Renew the Spirit within.  
Oh, let me be like him... for today.

# Cast Your Cares

By Jayne Nitz and Chris Driesbach 2008

*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?*

Hey!

Are you the king of what if? Have you got the crown?  
Are your laugh lines gone 'cause you always frown?  
You in a ocean of fear? Are you about to drown? Cast your cares on him.

Like Peter sinkin' down beneath the waves,  
Are you thinkin' maybe Jesus isn't able to save?  
Are you frettin' yourself into an early grave? Cast your cares on him.

Are your anxieties way, way out of hand?  
Are you bothered by troubles in a foreign land?  
Maybe a superbug will find you and take command. Cast your cares on him.

## **Chorus:**

Didn't he say he'd take care of you? Is worry gonna' add another hour to  
A life bought in blood as his gift to you? Cast your cares on him.

*So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

Wait a minute!

Are you draggin' a load around with all your might?  
Are you clenchin' your jaw? Are your muscles tight?  
Does it feel like you're never gonna' get it right? Cast your cares on him.

Is that monster worry sittin' on your chest?  
Are you getting wound up about identity theft?  
You're on a leash – on a line - on a negative quest. Cast your cares on him.

Do you pack it like ya' lunch, do you take it along?  
Do you drink it every morning, black and strong?  
Are you relatin' to me and my worry song? Cast your cares on him.

## **(Chorus)**

# Free at Last

By Jayne Nitz 2008

In every life there's a little rain.  
We all have heartaches. We've all known pain.  
But there's a greater hurt, and it runs deep-  
Just being human without God's peace.

## **Chorus:**

Free at last! I'm free at last  
Known for my future, not my past.  
It's the gift of God, this faith I have  
And I'm so thankful - free at last.

Now, the fear of death and the dread of hell  
Were like a chorus in my head - I knew them well.  
'Cause I couldn't guess if I'd burn or fly  
Or there'd be nothing when I die.

## **(Chorus)**

Called out of darkness into light,  
No more accusations wake me in the night.  
When I was lost in sin he bought me with a price.  
Now I'm a slave of Jesus Christ.

And he guides my life with a gentle hand.  
Instead of chaos, I see his plan.  
And if I suffer here, it can't compare  
To the glory waiting for me there.

## **(Chorus)**

And I'm thankful, I'm thankful,  
Hallelujah, I'm free at last.

# **I Can't Believe It, But I Do**

By Jayne Nitz and Chris Driesbach 2008

Baby born to a virgin girl,  
Gonna' save a fallen world.  
Son of God in a manger bed  
Goes to sleep where the cattle fed.

## **Chorus:**

Ooh, how can these things be true?  
My comprehension cut in two.  
Holy Spirit, thanks to you,  
I can't believe it, but I do.  
I can't believe it, but I do.

Three days since Jesus died  
Ugly grave and he lies inside.  
Rises up and I see his face  
Back in heaven, he takes his place.

## **(Chorus)**

Thank you, God, for these eyes of faith.  
Now I see in a different way.  
Your sacraments and scriptures do  
Put a song in my heart that says it's true.  
I can't believe it, but I do.

Communion Sunday and here I stand  
With the bread and the wine in my hand.  
Blood and body are underneath  
Overcomes my unbelief.

## **Chorus:**

Ooh, how can these things be true?  
My understanding made anew.  
Holy Spirit, thanks to you,  
I can't believe it, but I do.  
I can't believe it, but I do.

# What Were You Thinking?

By Jayne Nitz 2008

What were you thinking as your trust was betrayed?

“They’re tying my hands

While my friends run away?”

Armies of angels would’ve answered your call.

And you didn’t struggle at all.

What were you thinking when they spit in your face?

“I’ll get even with them,

And the whole human race?”

They crowned you with thorns, though you are more than a king.

And you didn’t say anything.

What were you thinking? A person could ask.

Were you out of your mind to agree?

What were you thinking, to stand in between

An angry Father and me?

What were you thinking as you hung on the tree?

“A curse on them all

For laughing at me?”

Of all of these things your thoughts were perfectly free.

And you purchased heaven for me.

What were you thinking? A person could ask.

Were you out of your mind to agree?

What were you thinking, to stand in between

An angry Father and me?

What were you thinking as you hung on the tree?

“A curse on them all

For laughing at me?”

Armies of angels would’ve answered your call.

You didn’t struggle at all.

You said, “Father, forgive them all.”

And you purchased heaven for us all.

# Heart of Stone

By Chris Driesbach 2008

If you think you need a new heart  
You prob'ly have a heart of stone.  
You can't fix it on your own  
If you've got a heart of stone.

If you act hard-hearted  
You got a heart of stone.  
Does it seem like you can't love anyone?  
You got a heart of stone.

## **Chorus:**

Do you try to be soft and kind  
But you're really hard and cold?  
Hey, you, with the heavy heart-  
Aren't you tired of walking alone?

Well, there is no store to get a new heart  
To change your heart of stone.  
But God will give you a new heart,  
Not a heart of stone.

Jesus would have died for you alone  
To change your heart of stone.  
And He will turn the rock to flesh.  
He'll change your heart of stone.

## **(Chorus)**

Have you turned away from your God today?  
You prob'ly got a heart of stone.  
You know, every sinner needs a new heart-  
Not a heart of stone.

But Jesus can turn the rock to flesh.  
He'll change your heart of stone.  
You know he would have died for you alone  
To save your heart of stone.  
He died to save your heart of stone.

# **Just Give Me Jesus**

By Chris Driesbach and Jayne Nitz 2007

I'm tired of Christmas, of decking the halls  
All the selling and buying and jingling and Muzak in malls.  
The candy is tempting, trees sparkle with light  
But where is the joy of the holy night shepherds worshiped a child?

## **Chorus:**

Just give me Jesus, one Bethlehem night  
The crowds of the census, the angels' delight.  
Sing me the story and I'll spread the word  
Give God the glory for all of the wonders that I've seen and heard.

I'm tired of reindeer, weary of toys.  
Tired of hearing how great it will be if we're good girls and boys.  
Watch out if I'm naughty, pretty gifts if I'm nice....  
None of it eases the pain that's healed with the gift of the Christ.

Give me the manger, the stable, the baby that's both God and man.  
My soul is crying, my heart is broken  
Needing the comfort the world can't provide, but only he can

## **(Chorus)**

Singing with angels of all of the wondrous things I've seen and heard



## **The Church's One Foundation**

Christian Worship #538 Text: Samuel J. Stone, Tune: Samuel S. Wesley  
Revised by Chris Driesbach and Jayne Nitz 2010

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is his new creation by water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elected from all nations, yet one throughout the earth  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, she eats one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, by daily grace renewed.

Though with a scornful wonder the world sees her oppressed,  
Divisions pull her under, dissent and lies distress,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
But soon the night of weeping will be a morning song.

The Church will never perish. Our Jesus will defend,  
He'll guide, sustain and cherish, be with her to the end.  
Though there are those that hate her and long to see her fail,  
Against the foes and traitors, she ever will prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blessed  
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.