

“He Is the Door!”
Philippians 2:12-13
INTRO

It was one of eleven songs that Hoyt Axton wrote for a children's cartoon series that never aired. Hoyt's songwriting skills went beyond children's programming. His mother, Mae Axton, wrote Elvis Presley's “Heartbreak Hotel.”

Hoyt thought that a couple of those children's songs could possibly become rock songs. So he pitched them to some of the bands associated with the label to which he was under contract.

When he first pitched his favorite of the songs, two of the three vocalists of a particular band didn't care for it. His second pitch to the same band caught the attention of one of the instrumentalists, but not much else.

The third pitch, with changed lyrics, was made to the other vocalist (absent during the first two pitches) who was concerned about the band performing a gospel song. Hoyt changed the lyrics back to the original and the band decided to go into the studio and work with it. The song was included on their 1970 album, *Naturally*. It went global.

The gospel story is simple enough for children to understand it. It is powerful enough, with the Spirit's guidance, to transform a person from certain death and destruction into life everlasting! The gospel is global!

1. Belief is doing God's Truth!
 - Luke 11:28; Luke 6:46-47
2. Take your salvation for a walk!
 - Acts 6:7; John 17:17
3. The Holy Spirit serves as our “trainer!”
 - John 14:26; John 16:8-11
4. Believers function in faith for God's pleasure!
 - John 8:29; Hebrews 13:20-21