

An Invitation from Songs

We have all heard about invitation songs . . . But how about An Invitation from Songs? Jerry Cherry, while extending the Lord's invitation following a Sunday evening song service at the Red Boiling Springs Church of Christ (TN), read some material composed by his wife, Crystal. Inspired by the New Testament story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15), Crystal utilized song titles and lyrics to form a modern form of the prodigal son. After some introductory comments, Jerry read the following to the congregation.

"A Beautiful Life" was given to me by the **"God of Our Fathers.** " He gave me a mother and father who cared for me **"Softly and Tenderly."** **"In My Father's House"** I learned that **"God is so Good"**. They wanted to **"Give Me the Bible."** **"In the Hush of the Morning"** we had a **"Sweet Hour of Prayer"**, and in the **"Sunlight"** I saw **"All Things Bright and Beautiful."** I did **"Consider the Lilies of the Field,"** **"Down in the Valley"**. **"One Day"** **"Stepping in the Light,"** I heard **Even Winds Whisper His Name."** I found **"Peace in the Valley."** My mother taught me to **"Sing and Be Happy,"** while my father taught me to **"Praise Him, Praise Him."** They taught me that **"It Pays to Serve Jesus"** and that **"Jesus Loves Me."** We went to **"The Church in the Wildwood."** I lived in the **"Paradise Valley"** and had **"Peace, Perfect Peace"** as a child. But with the **"Sands of Time"**, I grew into a younger man. I was soon full of **"Angry Words"** and I wanted to **"Flee As a Bird."** One **"Silent Night"**, **"I Traveled Down a Lonely Road."** **"Farther Along"** as I was **"Walking Alone at Eve"**, it started to rain. I sought **"Shelter in the Time of Storm."** But I soon realized **"I am a Stranger here."** **"In Sorrow I Wandered"**, **"Drifting Along"**, and soon **"I Was Sinking Deep in Sin."** **"Years I Spent in Vanity"** and had **"Trials Dark on Every Hand."** **"In the Desert of Sorrow and Sin"**, **"I Saw the Light"** and **"He Leadeth Me"** to **"The Old Rugged Cross."** I was **"Washed in the Blood"** and **"All to Jesus I surrender."** Through **"Amazing Grace"** I found the **"Rock of Ages."** You see, **"Jesus Paid it All"** **"On the Cross of Calvary"** that **"I Might Be Redeemed."** **"There is Power in the Blood"** and **"Worthy is the Lamb."** **"Hallelujah, What a Savior!"** Now, **"I'll Never Forsake My Lord."** He's **"A Wonderful Savior"** to me. **"I'm Not Afraid"** for **"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"** and that I am **"Safe in the Arms of Jesus."** I am a **"New Creature"** **"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."** **"Under His Wings"** I will return home to have **"Peace, Like a River."** I will **"Reach Out"** to my parents and ask them to forgive me. **"Bind Us Together Lord"**, **"God's Family."**

You know, I will now **"Ring Out the Message"** and tell others to **"Listen to the Wondrous Story."** **"Pass it On"** and **"Tell Them of Jesus."** If you are lost in sin, **"Why do You Wait, Dear Brother?"** It is **"Only a Step."** **"Yield Not to Temptation."** **"Why Keep Jesus Waiting"** **"Will You Come?"**

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