



by **Reynold R. Kremer**

A hymn study (*Hymnology*) course for elementary schools, Sunday schools, and others.

This program contains 35 of our most beloved songs and hymns. Each hymn includes a captivating history behind its writing and a detailed study of the text. These songs were written by prolific writers such as Luther, Watts, and Crosby, as well as one-time authors. (The great majority of these hymns are found in all Lutheran and general hymnbooks.)

AGE LEVEL

This course is designed for **middle or upper grade students in Christian elementary schools or Sunday schools**, and it will work well for youth and adult Bible study sessions.

FORMAT

The program comes with each hymn session in pdf format. The hymn text pages only are also in Word format. This was done because hymn texts may vary slightly in newer hymnbooks. The Word file allows you to make minor text changes however you will lose heading fonts. If you do NOT wish to make text changes, use the pdf file.

You are granted permission to reproduce the pages of each session.

The PowerPoint disk includes an introductory slide to each hymn and the screen text. Schools with PowerPoint software can go into the text slides and easily make text adjustments here, too.

The melody of each hymn is on the disk for listening. All hymns are in *midi* file format. Just click on the file to play. (You may play the song while viewing the PowerPoint slide. Your default music player will play the music. Some music players may be set to loop the song.)
We wish to thank nethymnal.org for their permission in using these melodies.

OBJECTIVES

1. **OUR HERITAGE** Our American Christian heritage is rich with songs and hymns that have been treasured by generations of God's people. As each year passes, new hymnbooks are added. Although this can be a good thing, we must be diligent not to lose sight of the songs that shaped our heritage, the songs that were loved by Christians in years past, the songs that were sung around the parlor piano and repeated in Sunday school and church.

2. **IT'S IMPORTANT** How important is it that we become attached to our hymns? In the Psalms we read, *“By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me”* (Ps. 42:8) and again, *“I remembered my songs in the night”* (Ps. 77:6). To the psalmists it was very important to have songs become an important part of daily lives so that they could be recalled at any moment to offer strength, comfort, and peace.
3. **COMPELLING HISTORY** Many of us have sung these songs again and again, never realizing why they were written or for whom they were intended. Studying the interesting history behind these songs adds another dimension to our enjoyment. What a different picture we get of “Onward Christian Soldiers” when we understand that it was written as a marching song for a children’s Sunday school. “It Is Well with My Soul” was written in mid-ocean over the very spot where Horatio Spafford’s four daughters drowned just days before. Thus we can appreciate his lyrics, “When sorrows like sea billows roll . . .” Some songs have tragic histories, others triumphant ones.
4. **IMPORTANT STUDY** The study section for these hymns deals with terminology, meaning, and scriptural references.
5. **ASSIGNMENT** The project is a small assignment which will take the students in many directions regarding our favorite hymns.
6. **POWERPOINT** The program comes complete with reproducible pages for the students as well as a PowerPoint disk of slides showing each of the hymns and writers.

NOTE: If you are in need of sheet music for any of these hymns, go to www.nethymnal.org.



HYMNS

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Reformation)
Abide with Me
All Praise to Thee My God this Night (Evening)
All Things Bright and Beautiful
Amazing Grace
Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning (Epiphany)
Children of the Heavenly Father
Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (Easter)
God Be with You Till We Meet Again
How Great Thou Art
I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
I Love to Tell the Story
I Need Thee Every Hour
I'm but a Stranger Here
It Is Well with My Soul
Jesus Loves Me This I Know
Jesus Savior, Pilot Me
Just As I Am without One Plea
Let Me Be Thine Forever
My Faith Looks Up to Thee
Nearer My God to Thee
Now Thank We All Our God
Now the Shades of Night Are Gone (Morning)
O Little Town of Bethlehem (Christmas)
Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices
Onward, Christian Soldiers
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Silent Night! Holy Night! (Christmas)
Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus
The Old Rugged Cross
There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood
To God Be the Glory
What a Friend We Have in Jesus
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (Lent)



OTHER MATERIALS TO BE USED WITH *HYMNPRESSIONS*

The following is a list of additional items that can supplement this program and are available at Kremer Publications. (1-800-669-0887, info@kremerpublications.com)

DVD's

AMAZING GRACE – 5 Hymns that Changed the World

Hymns include: “How Great Thou Art”, “It Is Well with My Soul”, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”, “Silent Night”, and “Amazing Grace”. This video is highly recommended to be shown with *Hymnpressions*. Each of the five hymns is well documented and presents many fascinating insights. Inspiring! 70 minutes. \$19.99

FANNY CROSBY STORY

This is a most amazing biography of the blind hymn writer Fanny Crosby. As the writer of more than 10,000 hymns, all penned after the age of 40, she is credited with authoring more verse than any human in history. Truly a fascinating documentary! 54 minutes. \$19.99

GLORY TO GOD ALONE: The Life of J. S. Bach

In this video we are accompanied by Bach authorities who guide us through the development, personal crises, challenges, remarkable output, and the compelling inner motivation of J. S. Bach. 30 minutes. \$19.99

JOHN NEWTON

This fast-paced and insightful documentary serves as an excellent teaching tool about the life of John Newton, from his turbulent youth, to his involvement in slave trade, to his remarkable ministry. 45 minutes. \$14.99

BOOKS

Hymns of Faith and Hope by Reynold R. Kremer

This Bible study course was designed for youth and adults, yet it offers some fun hymn trivia. Reproducible \$27.95.

101 Hymn Stories -The Inspiring True Stories Behind 101 Favorite Hymns by Kenneth W. Osbeck

101 More Hymn Stories -The Inspiring True Stories Behind 101 Favorite Hymns by Kenneth W. Osbeck

These two collections include uplifting stories behind your favorite hymns. They will warm your heart and revitalize your worship. Each hymn is shown with sheet music, full lyrics and comprehensive background information. Great for personal devotions or given as gifts. Each in paperback – 288 pages (vol. 1); 327 pages (vol. 2) \$14.99 each.

Then Sings My Soul -150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories by Robert J. Morgan

Then Sings My Soul Book 2 -150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories by Robert J. Morgan

These two volumes can be treasured by you or given as special gifts. They make ideal personal devotionals. Each of the 300 hymns includes printed sheet music and lyrics and fascinating background information. Both volumes are printed on ragged-edge pages – perfect for gift giving. 308 pages each. \$19.99 each.