

Scripture and Song Meditations – LOVE

Presented here is a collection of Bible verses and hymns to use for personal, small group, or congregational worship. Bible verses are paired with hymns to create a smooth and cohesive flow of the spoken Word with music (either instrumental or singing). The format is very similar to the familiar "Lessons and Carols" format commonly use at Christmas time.

No sheet music is provided in the outline since most of the music follows standard hymnal arrangements found on Hymnary.org. A few of the songs do have digital sheet music available for purchase at Sheet Music Plus and links are provided in the YouTube description.

"Love" is the theme for this set of "Scripture and Song Meditations." Below is the outline of Bible verses and hymns included in this devotional guide and corresponds to the YouTube video. Only the first verse of each song is included forming a presentation just over 16 minutes in length. Customizing the outline below to better meet your personal or church preferences could include the following modifications:

- include more verses for some of the songs for added program length
- read from a different Bible version that is more familiar or more contemporary
- have various instrumental and vocal musicians present each song
- have a variety of people of all ages take turns reading the Scriptures

All Scripture readings are taken from "The World English Bible (WEB)" The WEB is a Public Domain (no copyright) Modern English translation of the Holy Bible

OPENING SONG: God Loves Me Dearly

God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation, God loves me dearly, Loves even me. Love so unending! I'll sing His praises, God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

SCRIPTURE: John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, That whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

SCRIPTURE: John 15:9-13

Even as the Father has loved me, I also have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and remain in his love. I have spoken these things to you, that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be made full. This is my commandment, that you love one another, even as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

SCRIPTURE: Romans 5:8

> But God commends his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

SONG: The Love of God

> The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell; The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win; His erring child He reconciled, and pardoned from his sin. O love of God, how rich and pure!

How measureless and strong!

It shall forevermore endure the saints' and angels' song.

SCRIPTURE: Micah 7:18

> Who is a God like you, who pardons iniquity, and passes over the disobedience of the remnant of his heritage? He doesn't retain his anger forever, because he delights in loving kindness.

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 4:7-11

> Beloved, let's love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves has been born of God, and knows God. He who doesn't love doesn't know God, for God is love. By this God's love was revealed in us,

that God has sent his one and only Son into the world

that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, if God loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions.

He was crushed for our iniquities.

The punishment that brought our peace was on him;

and by his wounds we are healed.

SONG: What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. That life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me.

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, being rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:3

Yahweh appeared of old to me, saying, "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love. Therefore I have drawn you with loving kindness."

SONG: My Savior's Love

I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene, And wonder how he could love me, A sinner, condemned, unclean.
How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 36:7

How precious is your loving kindness, God! The children of men take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 103:13

Like a father has compassion on his children, so Yahweh has compassion on those who fear him.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 5:6-7

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time, casting all your worries on him, because he cares for you.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:26

See the birds of the sky, that they don't sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns. Your heavenly Father feeds them.

Aren't you of much more value than they?

SONG: God Sees the Little Sparrow Fall

God sees the little sparrow fall,
It meets His tender view;
If God so loves the little birds,
I know He loves me too.
He loves me, too, He loves me, too,
I know He loves me, too;

Because He loves the little things,

I know He loves me too.

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:1

See how great a love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God!

SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:38-39

For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from God's love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SCRIPTURE: Zephaniah 3:17

Yahweh, your God, is among you, a mighty one who will save. He will rejoice over you with joy. He will calm you in his love. He will rejoice over you with singing.

SONG: It Was His Love

It was His love that reached my soul, It was His grace that made me whole, And now He keeps me day by day, And safely leads me all the way. O wondrous and amazing love! O grace that saved and ransomed me! My heart and life shall sing of Thee In time and in eternity.

SCRIPTURE: Lamentations 3:22-23

It is because of Yahweh's loving kindnesses that we are not consumed,

because his compassion doesn't fail.

They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness.

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 4:16

We know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and he who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 54:10

"For the mountains may depart, and the hills be removed; but my loving kindness will not depart from you, and my covenant of peace will not be removed," says Yahweh who has mercy on you.

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 86:15

But you, Lord, are a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness and truth.

SONG: O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free, Rolling as a mighty ocean In its fullness over me, Underneath me, all around me, Is the current of Thy love; Leading onward, leading homeward To my glorious rest above.

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 136:26

Oh give thanks to the God of heaven; for his loving kindness endures forever.

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that Yahweh your God himself is God, the faithful God, who keeps covenant and loving kindness to a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commandments.

SCRIPTURE: Jude 1:21

Keep yourselves in God's love,

looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 8:17

I love those who love me.

Those who seek me diligently will find me.

CLOSING SONG: God Loves Me Dearly

God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,

God loves me dearly, Loves even me.
Love so unending! I'll sing His praises,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

"Scripture and Song Meditations: LOVE" created by Sharon Wilson

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Contact email: WilsonSheetMusic@gmail.com Website: www.SharonWilsonMusic.com

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