

Finding Beauty in
HYMN STUDY



Yen Cabag

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By: Yen Cabag

Finding Beauty in Hymn Study

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Published by Great Minds Publishing

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Printed in the Philippines.

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WELCOME

Thank you for purchasing the *Finding Beauty in Hymn Study* e-book by Charlotte Mason Philippines! I am happy to journey with you in the process of introducing—and enjoying—hymn study in your CM homeschool.

Like many first-time CM homeschoolers, I wasn't always consistent with doing hymn study for my two boys. But I've found that every time we *are* consistent, it's always a huge blessing to us! And one of the resources that helped us be consistent was a book of hymns.

When my oldest son was around eight years old, I found a preloved copy of a book entitled Aled Jones' Forty Favourite Hymns. Perhaps like some or many of you, we were not really a hymn-singing family, preferring more modern worship songs because that was what we were used to. So having that book made hymn study so much easier:

- first, it took away the guesswork, because we always knew exactly what hymn we would sing next;
- it was easy for my son to do hymn copywork because the book was easily accessible;
- we could easily sing the song again, whenever and wherever we wanted, even without Internet.

With this in mind, I'm happy to offer you this resource for your own family. I look forward to helping you make hymn study a mainstay—and a refreshing part—of your homeschool week.

HYMNS IN A CHARLOTTE MASON HOMESCHOOL

Hymns are an important part of a Charlotte Mason homeschool. If you are not used to singing hymns (like us!), they may sound outdated and difficult to memorize! But the power of music is such that eventually, and much easier than we think, our children (and we, parents, too, for that matter) can learn the lyrics, usually a bit later than the melody.

Granted, the melody of hymns are not the same as many of the popular songs we probably grew up listening to. But they are very singable, and usually contain repeated melody lines all throughout the song.

The lyrics of many hymns are either taken directly from the Bible, or talk about important doctrines of the Christian faith, using beautiful language not as common in modern worship songs.

So how do we do “hymn study”? It’s actually fairly simple. All you do is pick one hymn to sing together as a family over several weeks. Once a week is the minimum, but many attest to the benefits of singing together once a day.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

I created this book to help you with the following:

- You will have a whole year’s worth of hymns to sing, without having to make your own schedule;
- You can easily use the book for your children’s copywork;
- You can easily sing the hymns together even in times or places when you don’t have Internet!

So each section will have:

Hymn Lyrics

The hymns included in this book are in the public domain, which means they are free for public use. Some of the hymns may have variations, especially when revived by contemporary bands. I have tried to keep it as close to the original lyrics as possible.

I have picked a large font in easily readable type to make it easy for younger students to read along when you sing, and adjusted the font size depending on the length of the hymn while keeping the lyrics all on one page.

Year Published and Author Name

I have also included the year the hymn was first published and the name of the hymn writer, so you can easily research them if you want to. Some of the hymns were created by a text writer and a music composer; if I have the information, I included both. Other hymns have unclear attributions.

What if we don't know the tune?

Of course, if you're not familiar with the hymns, you can do what we did: we first usually had to search the songs on YouTube, but that was fairly easy to do.

Using YouTube

To help you in using this book, you can check out and use this playlist I created on my YouTube Channel, Charlotte Mason Philippines. The playlist is entitled [Playlist for Finding Beauty in Hymn Study](#), which you can click on the PDF file. If you have printed this book, you can search the keyword "Playlist for Finding Beauty in Hymn Study" on Google, or the link is:

[youtube.com](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAyDFL6nvy6fY21dNO8lZoK71aT32CP4C) (slash) [playlist?list=PLAyDFL6nvy6fY21dNO8lZoK71aT32CP4C](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAyDFL6nvy6fY21dNO8lZoK71aT32CP4C)

Disclaimer: I added the videos based on what we as a family enjoyed, but different families may have different preferences. These are just suggested videos. Also, this doesn't mean that I agree with everything that the YouTube channel promotes; I only add the video because of the hymns. Lastly, because I don't own the videos that I added into the playlist, they may disappear anytime, so feel free to find your own versions.

Inspired by the usefulness of that book to our family, I have decided to make this book, *Finding Beauty in Hymn Study*, to help other homeschoolers. I have included 20 hymns, so you can sing one hymn per month, and use this over TWO years! :)

Copywork

Older students: Older students can copy directly from the song lyrics, printed in a font that uses the handwriting "a" (c).

Middle students: For students who still need to see the lines in order to copy properly, this book includes, right after the lyrics, up to four verses of the lyrics in lined format for them to copy from. We suggest doing hymn copywork one per week for one month, onto a separate notebook. This will ensure that the book will be reusable for future students. I hope this blesses your family!

Copywork beginners: Then, for even younger students who need to copy right underneath the line of text, you may download our *FREE Hymn Study Copybook* on CharlotteMasonPhilippines.com. This is laid out in a landscape format to make it easier for younger students.

Biographical sketch OR Hymn Background

I have also taken the liberty to write a short biographical sketch of the hymn writer if I find interesting information about them, in case you are curious about them, as I sometimes am.

Some of the hymns may have anonymous authors, or unclear attributions. In such cases, we will not have a biographical sketch for you. But if we find interesting background information on the hymn, we may include this information in a section called “Hymn Background” instead.

Note that this is not a required reading for your students, and I only add them here to give you a picture of the person who wrote the hymn, for curiosity purposes.

Devotional

I have found, over the years, that as we sing these hymns, many of them just speak to my heart. I hope my sharing some of these here in short devotionals will also bless you.

Again, these are not required reading for a CM homeschool hymn study! But if you or your students would like to read them together and meditate with me on the beauties of God through these hymns, you are more than welcome to do so!

Reflection and Prayer

Lastly, I added a space where you or your students can write down your own Reflection and Prayer. If you are using this with multiple children, you may consider using this space for your own use, and your children can write down their own Reflection and Prayer in their own notebooks.

Again, although this is not a requirement for a CM homeschool, contemplating on our school lessons is an important part of CM, and we hope this space will help encourage thinking and mulling over the things that we read and experience throughout our days.

So without further ado, here’s to a blessed two years of hymn study!

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

1848 Cecil Frances Alexander

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

The rich man in his castle,
The poor man at his gate,
God made them, high and lowly,
And ordered their estate.

The purple headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;-

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,-
He made them every one:

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water,
We gather every day;-

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

The rich man in his castle,
The poor man at his gate,
God made them, high and lowly,
And ordered their estate.

The purple headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;

Biographical sketch

Cecil Frances Humphries, born in Dublin, Ireland in 1818, known as Fanny to her family and friends, loved writing poetry from when she was a young girl.

When she grew up, she married Rev. William Alexander, and had a burden for helping disadvantaged people. She would travel several miles everyday to visit the poor and the sick, bringing them food, clothes, and medicine. She and her sister also founded a charity for the deaf.

She also had a heart for children, teaching Sunday school from her youth and as an adult, continued to teach biblical truths to children. Her first hymn book, published in 1848, is entitled, "Hymns for Little Children," translating Christian truths into poetry form. For example, she wrote this hymn based on the part of the Apostles' Creed that describes God as "the Maker of heaven and earth."¹

Devotional

See the Birds of the Air

One of my favorite descriptions of what the Charlotte Mason philosophy does is that it brings us into contact with great minds. For example, when we read a book written by C.S. Lewis, we come into contact with his mind. When we contemplate on a painting by Michelangelo, we also come into contact with the great artist's mind.

And.... when we breathe in nature, we come into contact with the Creator's mind.

What kind of Creator is this, who would paint the petals of flowers all different colors, and would shape each leaf individually, in different forms and shapes? For me, as I contemplate the colors of the flowers and the birds, I'm reminded me of this passage in the Bible:

"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"

And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:26-33)

¹ hymnary.Org, ChristianityToday.Com

Reflection and Prayer

END OF SAMPLE

TILL NEXT TIME

Thank you very much for downloading this free sample. To purchase the full ebook, please visit:

CharlotteMasonPhilippines.com/Shop

Other resources we offer to assist you in your Charlotte Mason homeschooling journey include:

- ✿ Talino Charlotte Mason Curriculum Form 1 (for students in Grades 1 to 3)
- ✿ Talino Charlotte Mason Curriculum Form 2 (for students in Grades 4 to 6)
- ✿ Talino Charlotte Mason Curriculum High School (for students in Grades 7 to 10)
- ✿ Tahum Family Riches Pack (coming soon)
- ✿ and more to come!

If you haven't already done so, you may download the FREE Hymn Study Copybook printable for younger students to copy right underneath the line of text, over at CharlotteMasonPhilippines.com.

Sign up for a free e-book, too, and get the chance to be the first to know our latest updates!



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Based in Iloilo City, Yen Cabag is a homeschooling mom, writer, entrepreneur, and Charlotte Mason coach, trainer, and advocate, who loves reading, storytelling, and creating just about anything—from kitchen concoctions to stories, articles, songs, curriculum, and crochet pieces!

Growing up, her daily diet included a dose of Sweet Valley Twins, Sweet Valley Kids, and Sweet Valley High, only falling in love with classic books when she started learning and applying the Charlotte Mason philosophy in their homeschool and family life. Since then, her husband Mark has also jumped on the bandwagon, devouring books left and right, despite not having enjoyed it in his younger years. (Score for living books!)

Yen's favorite me-time activity is digging for treasure in one of the many branches of Booksale, while the family also loves walking or biking along the river on Iloilo Esplanade, spending time on the beach, or snorkeling in one of the marine sanctuaries that Iloilo is blessed with.

Yen and Mark are also champions for fostering and adoption, with two of their three boys coming into the family through this beautiful gift.

Yen graduated magna cum laude for B.S. in Business Administration from the University of the Philippines in the Visayas, and went on to become a licensed teacher. She is currently taking up Master's in School Management.