<u>Words and stories</u> <u>behind the songs on</u> **Seasons of Hope**

Hebrews 10:23 (NLT)

²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. ¹

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)

⁶Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

⁷Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

¹ Tyndale House Publishers. (2004). *Holy Bible : New Living Translation.* (2nd ed.). Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House Publishers.

 $^{^2\,}$ Tyndale House Publishers. (2004). Holy Bible : New Living Translation. (2nd ed.). Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House Publishers.

You are Faithful and True

Words and music: David F. Anderson ©:October 18 – 26, 2008 T.A.D.A. Music.

I started this song just before I left the hospital after my first chemo treatment. Through the years and even now, I am finding God is faithful and true.

In the midst of troubled times, You are faithful Lord
When it seems that all is lost, You're the one who can restore.
I need not fear or be in want, cause You supply my needs
When I hunger deep inside, You're the one who feeds.

Chorus:

You are faithful to me, and Your faithfulness I see Looking all around, there's no one else who fills my every need You are faithful and true, so I give my cares to You Heaven and earth may pass away, but I'll continue to trust in You You are faithful and true.

In a time with so much change, You are constant Lord
We try so hard to cling to things, but You supply much more
You're the one who has created us, the world, and all we see
You are my God, in whom I trust, the one who sets me free. (chorus)

Yesterday, today, forever, You are sovereign Lord
I take rest within your hands, cause you know what's in store
Though there's many things I do not know, I know Your word is true
You're in control of everything, and You're making all things new.
(chorus)

God has a purpose

Words and music: David F. Anderson ©:1982 T.A.D.A. Music.

This was written after a friend had a miscarriage and thinking about how God has a purpose behind everything, even when we don't understand.

At times it can be a struggle just living day to day So many people asking questions, with their lives in disarray You can spend your whole life searching for the answers till you die But many things you cannot know, no matter how you try.

Chorus:

God has a purpose and God has a plan Maybe someday we may understand But for now just remember, in all you go through God is always there with you.

There's many things that happen to you as you live this life But Jesus gives you peace inside, even when there's strife If it seems like you won't make it through, remember that He's there And He will give you strength so don't despair

As you live your life and years go by, you'll see more clearly That the things you questioned long ago, Are the things you now can see If you knew the answers all the time, Would you have come to Him in prayer? And seen his faithfulness was working there.

Seasons of Hope

Words and music: David F. Anderson ©: November 6, 2008 t.a.d.a. music.

I wrote this song thinking about the title of my chemo class book. I liked the title and God gave the words from that point. Knowing that God knows the future, does give hope. I would not trade that for anything.

Life takes turns that you do not expect
And it feels like it's out of control
But there's a purpose for every season of life
Though at times you may not see or know. but...(chorus)

Chorus:

God knows my future and He knows my past
And the present is in His control
So I rest in the promise that He knows what's best
and that fills me with seasons of hope,
Yes, that fills me with seasons of hope.

Changes in life are often hard to accept
And it seems like we can't take the strain
But hard times come to both the good and bad
And to grow you need both sunshine and rain. and...(chorus)

Bridge:

Though storm clouds gather, and fear fills your heart take courage for you are not alone.

And God will supply everything that you need

With a strength that you never have known. cause...(chorus)

Open Ways to Him

Copywrite:words adapted from Amy Carmichael Music: David F. Anderson 1998 t.a.d.a. music.

The path God takes us may not always be familiar to us, but He knows all paths and is faithful to guide us through any darkness.

What room is there for fear, when I know my Lord is near For He will be my light that I may clearly see the way There need be no bewilderment, to the one who goes where he is sent The trackless plain is set with signs so that he won't go astray.

Chorus:

My path may cross a waste of sea, but that need never frighten me. The river may be full to the very brim, but those rivers become open ways to him.

My path my lead through woods at night, where there is neither moon or light A guiding star, a beacon shine, He will not let me stray Lord grant to me a quiet mind, trust thee for thou art kind That I may go on without fear, for You my Lord are near. (Chorus)

What room is there for fear, when I know my Lord is near For He will be my light that I may clearly see the way

FROM GOD ALONE (PSALM 62)

WORDS: Adapted from Psalm 62 by David Anderson MUSIC: David Anderson ©: March 14, 1995 T.A.D.A. MUSIC

Through out the psalms and other places in the bible, God is pictured as our rock, rescuer, defense, fortress. ALL THESE PICTURES GIVE US HOPE.

I STAND SILENTLY BEFORE YOU LORD WAITING FOR YOU TO RESCUE ME. FOR SALVATION COMES FROM YOU ALONE YES, YOU ALONE ARE MY ROCK. (CHORUS)

Chorus:

YOU'RE MY ROCK, MY RESCUER, DEFENSE AND FORTRESS WHY THEN SHOULD I BE TENSE WITH FEAR WHEN TROUBLE COMES YOU'RE MY ROCK, MY RESCUER, DEFENSE AND FORTRESS MY PROTECTION COMES FROM YOU ALONE.

I POUR OUT MY LONGINGS BEFORE YOU LORD FOR YOU WILL SURELY HELP ME NOW. FOR THE GREATEST, AND THE LOWEST WHO ARE HUMBLE IN HEART YOU WILL ANSWER THEIR CRY. (chorus)

OUR GREAT SAVIOR

Words: J. Wilbur Chapman, 1859–1918 music: David F. Anderson ©: 2008 T.A.D.A. Music.

I read the words to this song in a devotional and I started playing some music and it all came together. I like it because it reminds me of my great Savior who is able to help in trouble, weakness and sorrow. And with that, bring comfort and hope.

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul. Friends may fail me, foes assail me; He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him; tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my strength, my vict'ry wins. (chorus)

Chorus:

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend! Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll, even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! what a guide and Keeper! While the tempest still is high, storms about me, night o'er-takes me, He, my Pilot, hears my cry. (chorus)

Jesus! I do now receive Him; more than all in Him I find; He hath granted me forgiveness; I am His, and He is mine. (chorus)

Seasons of Life

Words and Music: David F. Anderson ©November 8,2001 T.A.D.A. Music.

This was written thinking about the different seasons in our lives. I know that if it were up to us to plan our paths, we would try to avoid much of what we go through in life. But God does have a purpose to each season in our life, and we need to thank God for the wisdom He has and for each season of life, even if we do not understand it.

Sometimes I question why things are happening to me I cannot find a reason for it all.

But as the time goes by, I see more clearly

That You were there and heard my every call. (chorus)

Chorus:

I thank you my God, for these seasons of life The good and the bad, times of joy and of strife. I am learning to trust You in every circumstance, And I thank You for the seasons of my life.

There's a time for laughing, a time to morn, A time for life, a time to die. So I will not think it strange when I do not understand Cause every situation's in Your hands. (chorus)

And as each day passes, I will rejoice
For you've given this pathway I see.
Even though I don't know what's around the next bend
I am safe cause I know you will lead.

As the seasons come and go, and the colors quickly change My life is moving swiftly toward that final day. And as I live each day, I know You're with me all the way And there is only one thing left I can say...(chorus)

You will see it through

Words and music: David F. Anderson ©: January 21,1985 T.A.D.A. Music.

Sometimes we feel real down. But God is there even when we don't see or feel Him. Faith is trusting even when we don't see.

Sometimes I feel so down and out, lost in my despair Questions shouting deep inside, that wonder if you're there But I know that You are faithful, and I know Your word is true And all that You've begun in me, You will see it through.

Why is it so hard at times to find Your will for me It seems that when I pray so hard, I should begin to see But even though I seem so lost, still I will put my faith in only You Cause all that You've begun in me, You will see it through

Bridge:

I don't know what tomorrow brings, but I'm sure that I'll be fine Cause even if my light feels dim, with You I'll always shine.

Thank you for Your love for me, It's been there from the start I know You'll work Your will in me, I know it in my heart And even though I may have questions, About the things that You will do Let Your work begin in me, cause You will see it through.

Yes, I will trust

Words and Music:David F. Anderson ©:Oct 16-17, 2008 T.A.D.A. Music.

The first verse and chorus was started waiting for diagnosis in the hospital, The rest was finished the next day after finding out the diagnosis of diffuse large B cell lymphoma in the hospital. God used this song even in the hospital as I sang it probably to at least 40 nurses and a few patients.

When things are unknown, they're still known by You When I cannot see, I can see through Your view.

Chorus:

So I will trust in You, Yes, I will trust in You.

When fear fills my heart, You come with Your peace When imprisoned by thoughts, You come and bring release. (chorus)

Bridge:

Your love for me is great, how could I ever doubt You're with me through each circumstance And You will help me out.

When darkness surrounds me, Lord, You are my light When I'm too weak to stand, You help in the fight.(chorus)

Beyond Today

COPYWRITE:NOVEMBER 7, 2006 T.A.D.A. MUSIC. WORDS:J.R.MILLER MUSIC: DAVID F. ANDERSON

The words to this song were in a devotional from 1900. My wife had just had knee surgery and was recovering in the hospital. I was at my mothers house and reading this old devotional for morning devotions and the music just flowed with the words. It was encouraging the way it came. The book was my grandmothers and was given by a friend in Canada, when she moved to Minnesota. See did not want to move here, but God had a plan, even though see could not see it then. In the end she knew God's way was best.

If we could see beyond today, as God can see
If all the clouds should roll away, the shadows flee
O'er present griefs we would not fret,
Each sorrow we would soon forget
For many joys are waiting yet, for you and me.

If we could know beyond today, as God doth know Why dearest treasures pass away, and tears must flow And why the darkness leads to light, Why dreary paths will soon grow bright Some day life's wrongs will be made right Faith tells us so.

If we could see, if we could know, we often say! But God in love a veil doth throw, across our way We cannot see what lies before, And so we cling to Him the more, He leads us till this life is o'er, Trust and obey.

You've Been Good to Me Words and Music: David F. Anderson April 12, 2001 T.A.D.A. Music.

This song was written thinking about my Grandmother, who went to be home with the Lord in February. She was 98 years old. This was kind of her quote in later life. She would say "You know it's been a good life, God has been so good to me". I agree, God has been good to me.

Before the world began, You formed me and You knew That I must walk this path, all the things that I go through. Though times there has been hurt, sorrow and great pain Yet even when I failed you, Your love has still remained.

Chorus:

All the blessings in my life, Have opened up my eyes to see That when all is said and done. My God, You've been good to me.

You have given everything, my home and family But Your greatest gift of all, was when Jesus died for me. (chorus)

When I take my final breath, and the color leaves my face Life's been good because I've tasted of Your amazing grace (chorus)

I am amazed that You love me

Words and music: David F. Anderson ©: September 15,2004 T.A.D.A. Music

As I read the bible, I am continually amazed at how God loves me. Throughout time, as we have been sinful and gone to do our own thing, God continually reaches out. And that gives me peace and hope.

Chorus:

I am amazed that You love me I stand in awe of Your grace I am amazed that You love me Lord, I will seek Your face.

When I was lost, You came and sought me I was alone and afraid You wrapped Your strong arms around me And I've been pulled from the miry clay. (chorus)

When I am down, You bring comfort When in distress, You bring peace You meet my needs completely You give my soul release. (chorus)

Let Everything (psalm 150)

Adapted from psalm 150. words and music: David F. Anderson ©: 2008 T.A.D.A. Music.

God's people have always been and will always be a "praising people." God created and chose us in order that we "might be for the praise of His glory," the sum of all that God is and does. The song of praise began at creation when "the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy" (Job 38:7). It was furthered during the Old Testament period by the Israelites, who were widely known for their "singing faith." The song of praise was echoed by the angelic chorus announcing Christ's birth. It has been proclaimed and published by pastors, hymn writers, and singers throughout the centuries. And it is rehearsed each week by worshiping believers everywhere as they prepare for the new song of praise and worship that will continue throughout eternity.³

I have learned that I need to praise God in the midst of difficulty and trouble, as well as in good times. So I included this song as a song of praise because His faithfulness continues for all time.

Praise God in his holy house of worship Praise Him under the open skies Praise Him for his mighty acts of power for His goodness, no one can deny

Chorus:

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord Let everything, praise the Lord!

Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet Praise Him guitar and on the harp Praise Him with the tambourine and dancing We'll give you praise and tell how great you are.

Come enter His gates with thanksgiving And come into His courts with songs of praise Give thanks unto Him and praise His name His faithfulness continues for all time.

³Osbeck, K. W. (1990). *Amazing grace : 366 inspiring hymn stories for daily devotions*. Includes indexes. (336). Grand Rapids, Mich.: Kregel Publications.

My Hope Resting in You

Words and Music: David F. Anderson ©: Nov. 12, 2008 T.A.D.A. Music

I wrote this song as I was thinking how I would face life and the things that come if I didn't have hope. Many people go through life without hope. So this is a testimony that because of what Jesus has done on the cross, we can have hope. Nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. If you do not have that hope in you, Ask God to send you that hope, through Jesus.

When I am down, feeling so low You give me comfort the world cannot know So I ask you to come, move within me Jesus may you shine that everyone sees.

Chorus:

You are the hope for a world in despair Nothing else matches Your love and your care I cannot imagine what I would do If I didn't have my hope resting in You.

Nothing can come that can take me from You You are a friend who is faithful and true You do not fail from beginning to end And You're in control of the how, why, and when. (Chorus)

Ending: No I cannot imagine, what I would do If I didn't have my hope resting in You.