

A Closer Walk With God

William Cowper

LAM 8.6.8.6.

Mimi Lam

F B \flat B \flat m F

O for a clos - er walk with God, A

C F7 B \flat

calm and heav'n-ly frame; A light to shine up - on the

F Dm B \flat F C7 F

road That leads me to the Lamb!

2. Where is the blessedness I knew,
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
Of Jesus and His word?
4. Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn
And drove Thee from my breast.
3. What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
The world can never fill.
5. The dearest idol I have known,
What e'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne
And worship only Thee.
6. So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

William Cowper wrote this hymn during the long illness of Mary Unwin. Though having only known the Unwin's for a few years, Mary quickly became a mother figure to Cowper, and she was a vital support to him for the rest of her life. During her illness, Cowper prayed vigilantly for her, and he realized his need for his own soul to be further sanctified. In this poem, you see Cowper writing to "to surrender up to the Lord" all his "dearest comfort" in pursuit of fuller fellowship with the Lord.