

Riches of Hymns | 27 Hymns Every Seeker Should Know

Instructor: James Reinarz

Time: Wednesdays, 9:00-10:00 pm ET

Class Size: No limit

Course Description:

Hymn singing is a treasured practice the Lord has used to bring Christians closer to Him for millenia. Through singing we can lift up our love, hopes and challenges to the Lord. And through hymns we sing not just our own praises but the words of countless Christians who have gone before us. Hymn writers have given us their experiences in following the footsteps of the Lamb through trial and victory. And by singing their words the depths of resolve, faith and love they had for the Lord can shape our hearts to seek the Lord in a fuller, healthier and mature way.

In Riches of Hymns, we will cover 27 hymns and more that will help any Christian grow. We will cover foundational experiences every Christian needs to progress well such as loving the Lord, consecrating to Him, desiring more of Himself, knowing the cross and serving in union with the Lord. These key experiences will be enhanced with some background of key hymn writers such as A. B. Simpson, M. E. Barber and Watchman Nee.

Course Material:

Songs & Hymns of Life Hymnal (physical copies please!)

Reference text: Christ in Hymnology, Chen & Mallon

(<https://www.livingwordpub.com/store/p4/christ-in-hymnology.html#/>)

Syllabus (week by week)

1. Introduction to Hymns and Songs and Hymns of Life
2. Loving the Lord Jesus
3. Giving ourselves to the Lord
4. Desiring more of the Lord
5. Knowing the experiences of the cross
6. Serving in union with the Lord
7. The life and hymns of A. B. Simpson
8. The life and hymns of M. E. Barber
9. The life and hymns of Watchman Nee

Course Objectives:

1. To become familiar with key hymns that foster a pursuing heart.
2. To become familiar with the hymnal Songs & Hymns of Life
3. To sing hymns devotionally as an aid to coming to the Lord's presence
4. To be exposed to spiritual sentiments and experiences further along than our own growth for a future where the Lord will lead us into deeper things.

Homework:

Students will be expected to learn and sing three hymns a week and write one journal entry about their experience. Journal entries will be submitted via Google Classroom and each homework assignment will be commented on by the teacher.

Group work is encouraged and group journal entries will be accepted.

Students will be asked to share their entries with the class during the Zoom call and extra credit songs and further reading will be available for each assignment.