

"Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound"

John Newton's hymn, "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound" is one of the most popular hymns in the world. Your children will enjoy experiencing the haunting, pentatonic melody and the autobiographical text that paints a vivid portrait of God's grace.

KIDPages

Use these pages:

- With children who arrive early
- In a small learning group
- As a take-home page. (If a page is sent home, suggest that parents and children work on the puzzle together.)

John Newton: An Amazing Man

As children learn this information, point out how God revealed His presence in John Newton's life. Emphasize how he both received God's grace and shared that grace with others.

Amazing Grace Ocean Voyage

Use this page to help children learn the words of Stanza 1.

Grace Decoded

Use this page to guide children to understand the meaning of the word *grace*.

"Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound"

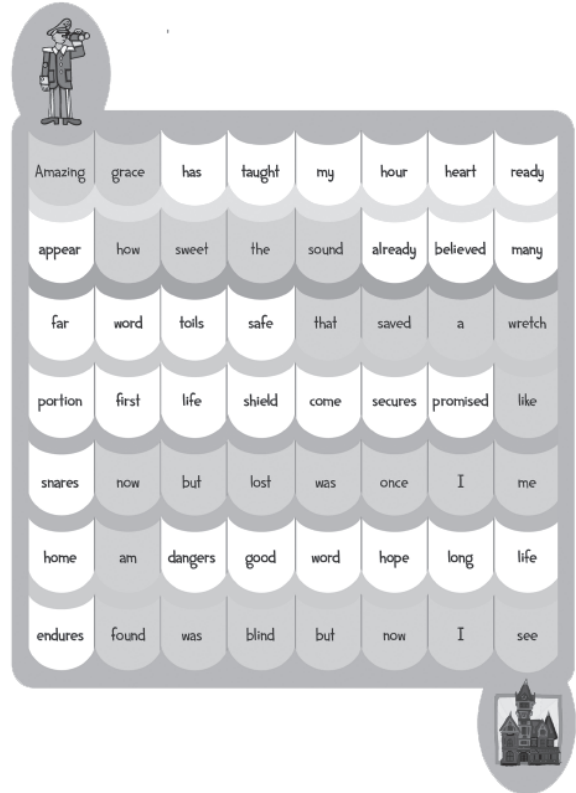
Accompaniment

Perform this chart with Boomwhackers®, bells, or Orff instruments. Reproduce this page for each player. Bring the parts in one at a time, beginning with the top part, then add the melody.

A Life of Grace Dramatic Reading

Enlist and rehearse two readers to present this dramatic reading before singing the hymn.

Ocean Voyage Answer:



Grace Decoded Answer:

"God is able to make all grace come to you—more than enough to meet your needs and to share with others." 2 Corinthians 9:8 (paraphrase)

Definition:

A wretch is a miserable, unhappy person. After reading *John Newton: An Amazing Man*, ask children why Newton referred to himself in his former life as a wretch.

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my
 5. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright shin - ing

wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought me
 hope se - cures; He will my shield and
 as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we first be - gun.

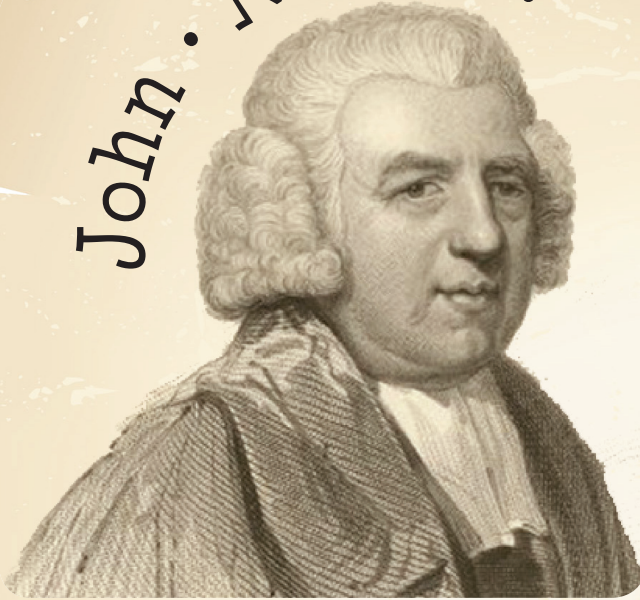
WORDS: John Newton, 1779 (sts. 1-4); Anonymous, ca. 1790 (st. 5)

MUSIC: Benjamin Shaw and Charles H. Spilman's *Columbian Harmony*, 1829;
 arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

NEW BRITAIN

CM

John · Newton:

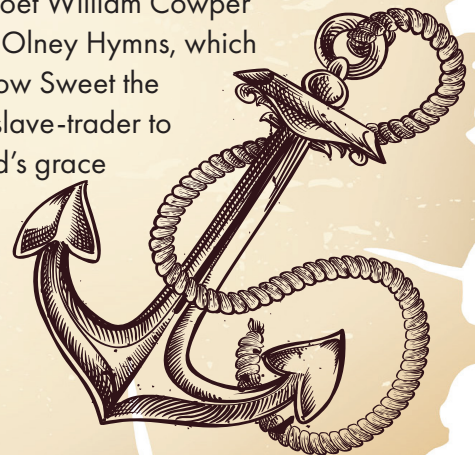


An · Amazing · Man

John Newton (1725-1807) was an English slave ship commander who became a follower of Christ and a minister. John's life took many dramatic turns. His mother died when he was a child, and John soon joined his seafaring father on exciting voyages. Later, he joined the Navy, but he soon deserted. He was recaptured and put to work on a ship that traded slaves. He decided to become rich as a slave trader, but instead he was forced to become a servant. His master treated him brutally. A friend of his father finally rescued him. John survived a bad storm at sea and other brushes with death. He began to read the Bible and other religious writings, and he trusted Jesus as his Savior.

Newton grew in his faith and began to study to become a minister. He eventually became pastor in Olney, Buckinghamshire. He became known for his kindness and care for all people. His friendship with poet William Cowper resulted in the creation of a famous hymnbook called the Olney Hymns, which

contained the hymn, "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound." Newton's change from a selfish slave-trader to a caring minister is a living portrait of God's grace at work!



Ocean Voyage



Help John Newton sail through the ocean to his home! Color each block that contains a word of Stanza 1, shown at the bottom of the page. Then, add the punctuation to the words.

Amazing	grace	has	taught	my	hour	heart	ready
appear	how	sweet	the	sound	already	believed	many
far	word	toils	safe	that	saved	a	wretch
portion	first	life	shield	come	secures	promised	like
snares	now	but	lost	was	once	I	me
home	am	dangers	good	word	hope	long	life
endures	found	was	blind	but	now	I	see










*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*



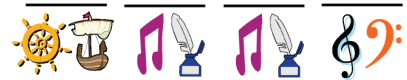
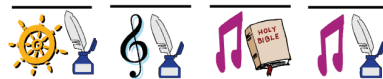
Grace Decoded

What exactly is grace? It is a gift, an attitude, or an action given or shared with someone who has done nothing to deserve it. We need to receive and give grace every day! Read the symbols across the top and down the side of the CODE BOX to track the letter that belongs in each blank. Write each letter in the correct blank to discover a promise in the Bible about grace.

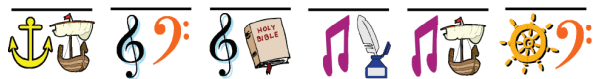
CODE BOX

				
A	B	C	D	E 
G	H	I	K	L 
M	N	O	P	R 
S	T	U	W	Y 

“



”



2 Corinthians 9:8 (paraphrase)

“Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”

Accompaniment

$\bullet = 88$ *mf*

Glockenspiel
Alto Xylophone
Alto Metallophone
Bass Xylophone

The melody of “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound” uses only five notes of the scale: *do, re, mi, sol, and la*. These five-note melodies are called “pentatonic songs” because they use only five notes from the scale and leave out steps four (*fa*) and seven (*ti*).

Lead children to play the patterns to accompany the melody, using Orff instruments, hand chimes, resonator bells, or Boomwhackers®. Orff instrument assignments are suggested. Play the repeated section seven times.

A - maz - ing — grace! how sweet the
 sound that saved a — wretch like me! —
 — I once — was — lost. but now — am —
 found. was blind. but — now I see. —

A Life of Grace

Hymn Introduction
(Alternate Two Readers)

John Newton lived a dramatic life.

His mother died when he was seven.

At age 11, he began life as a sailor on his father's ship.

He spent many years transporting and selling slaves.

But God's grace was at work in his life.

He survived a bad storm at sea and other brushes with death.

He began to read the Bible and other religious writings.

He soon gave his life to Christ.

Later, he felt the call to preach, and eventually
became a pastor in Olney, England.

Newton wrote a hymn about his testimony called,
"Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound."

In his later life, Newton helped the political
leaders of his day abolish slave trade.

Newton preached through his sermons, his hymns,
and through the dramatic testimony of God's grace in his life.