

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

In an age of terror alerts and insecurity, our world can seem like a wilderness. This timeless hymn conveys the same sense of urgency today as it did when it was written over 260 years ago. These words are a prayer for guidance and a confession of our dependence upon God in uncertain times.

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.)

Author/Composer Word Search

Read the stories and solve the word search to learn about the author and composer.

A Hymn/Bible Story Connection

Have children read the story and circle the correct words on the "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hymn Sheet.

Hymn Scramble

Guide children to look up the Bible passages and unscramble and match hymn words on the "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hymn Sheet.

Meaningful Matches

Use this page to help children learn the meaning of key words.

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

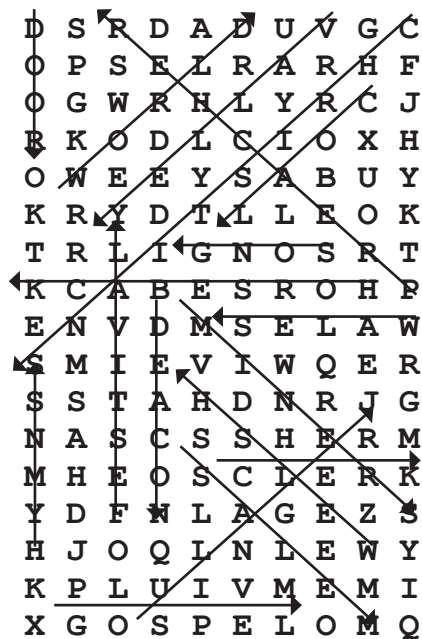
Accompaniment

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

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Dramatic Reading

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

Author/Composer Word Search Answers:



Hymn Scramble Answers:

1. pilgrim
2. bread of heaven
3. crystal fountain
4. fire and cloudy pillar

Meaningful Matches Answers:

- barren/empty
- bear/carry
- bid/ask
- crystal/clear
- current/fast-moving water
- doth/does
- fountain/spring of water
- pilgrim/spiritual traveler
- pillar/upright column
- subside/become less
- swelling/getting bigger
- tread/walk
- verge/edge
- whence/where

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side: bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent,

hold me with Thy power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 be Thou still my strength and shield, be Thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee.

WORDS: William Williams, 1745; trans. st. 1, Peter Williams, 1771
 (Ex. 13:21-22; 16:11-17; 17:1-7)

CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7

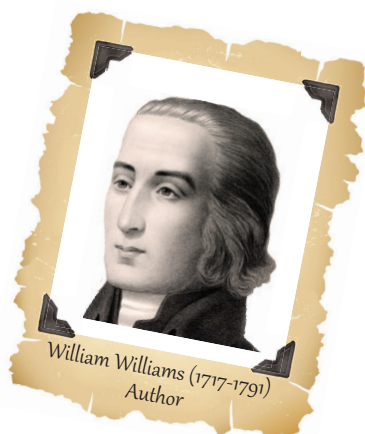
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

Author/Composer Word Search

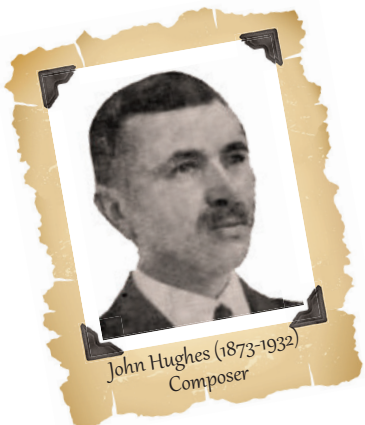
The highlighted words in the stories are used in this word search. Find and circle the words. They are hidden forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally.

William Williams has been called the *sweet singer of Wales*. For forty-three years he traveled thousands of miles on **horseback**, preaching and singing the **gospel** in the **Welsh** language. Williams was a powerful **preacher** and wrote over 800 **hymns**. "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" has been translated into over 70 languages. Williams never left his beloved Wales, but his hymn has influenced **Christians** all over the **world**.

John Hughes was born in Wales. By age 12, he worked as a **door** boy in the **coal** mines, spending long hours opening and closing doors for **miners**. Hughes eventually worked his way up to **clerk** for a mine in Rhondda Valley. He belonged to **Salem** Baptist Chapel, where he was a **deacon** and **song** leader. Hughes composed the hymn tune CWM RHONDDA, (pronounced *koom rhawn-tha*) for a singing **festival**. CWM RHONDDA means *Rhondda Valley*, which was a mining **valley** in Wales.



William Williams (1717-1791)
Author



John Hughes (1873-1932)
Composer



A Hymn/Bible Story Connection

Read the story below. The bolded words appear in the hymn text. Find and circle them on the "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hymn Sheet.

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

is based on a Bible story about Moses and the children of Israel.

God asked Moses to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt to the Promised

Land in Canaan. Moses led God's **pilgrim** people through a **barren land**

in the wilderness. God fed them with manna, a type of bread that fell from the sky, as if from heaven! God led the children with a special cloud in the sky during the day and a pillar of fire at night. One time, God

created a **fountain** of

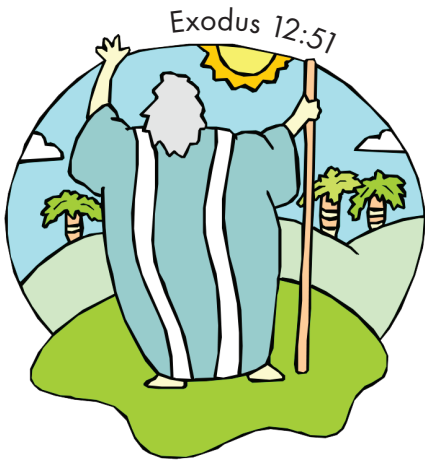
crystal-clear water when Moses hit a rock with his staff. The hymn compares our Christian life with the journey of the children of Israel. We are pilgrims on a faith journey with Jesus. God's Word is our **Bread of heaven**, and Jesus is our fountain of Living Water. God's Spirit and Word guide us, just as the **fire and cloudy pillar**

led the people in the wilderness. Finally, our promised land on **Canaan's side** is heaven, where we will live with God and sing our **songs of praises** forever!



Hymn Scramble

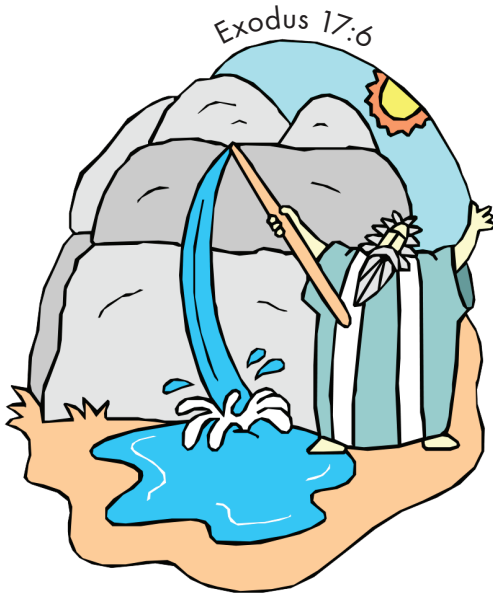
Unscramble each word or phrase. Find and underline the phrase in the hymn sheet. Look up the Bible references to read more about the pictures.



1. l i g m i r p

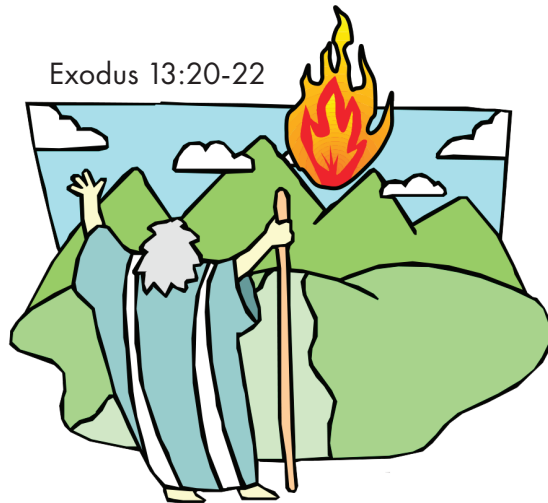


2. d a r e b f o e h v n a e



3. l y t s a r c

n a t u n o i f



4. r i f e d n a

d o l y u c r i l p a l

1

**Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
hold me with Thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.**

**O
Thou**

3

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside:
bear me through the swelling current,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.**

**“Guide
Me,**

2

**Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be Thou still my strength and shield,
be Thou still my strength and shield.**

**Great
Jehovah”**

Hymn Sheet

Meaningful Matches

Draw a line between the matching symbols in the columns to discover the meaning of each of the words from "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."

HYMN WORD

barren 

bear 

bid 

crystal 

current 

doth 

fountain 

pilgrim 

pillar 

subside 

swelling 

tread 

verge 

whence 

MEANING

 spiritual traveler

 empty

 clear

 spring of water

 where

 does

 upright column

 walk

 edge

 ask

 become less

 carry

 getting bigger

 fast-moving water

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Accompaniment

♩ = 92

Glockenspiel

Alto Xylophone

Alto Metallophone

Bass Xylophone

Finger Cymbals

Claves

Lead children to play the patterns to accompany the melody, using Orff instruments, handchimes, resonator bells, or Boomwhackers®, and unpitched percussion instruments. Orff instrument assignments are suggested. Play the first two measures six times.



“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Dramatic Reading

READER 1: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah.

READER 2: Guide me.

READER 1: Show me Your ways, O Lord.

READER 2: Teach me Your paths.

READER 1 and 2: Guide me in Your truth, and teach me.

READER 1: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah.

READER 2: O Thou Great Jehovah.

READER 1: How great You are, O Holy Lord.

READER 2: There is none like You.

READER 1 and 2: There is no God but You.

READER 1: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah.

READER 2: Show me.

READER 1: Teach me.

READER 2: I will praise You forever.

READER 1 and 2: Songs of praises I will ever sing to Thee.

