

PSALM 1

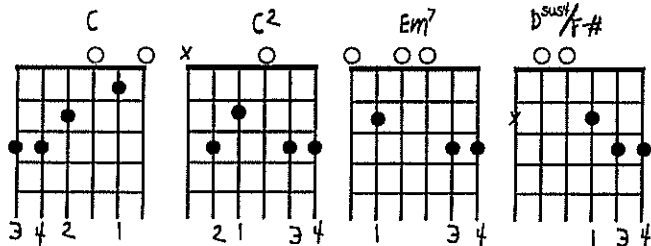
BLESSED is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

I was eighteen years old when I first opened a Bible and Psalm One was first scripture I ever memorized. Over the years, on sleepless nights or during long drives I recall these lines to find comfort and personal sermons. The blessing of having this Psalm memorized is what inspired me to record this project for you. This was the first song we tackled in the studio. You shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water

...thirsty?



PSALM ONE: 1-3 KJV

key of B
capo 4 play in G

Intro G Em D

G
Blessed is the man that walketh not

C G D/F#
In the counsel of the ungodly,

G Em
Nor standeth in the way of sinners,

C G D
Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

C2 Em7 Dsus4/F# C2
But his delight is in the law of the LORD;

C2 Em7 Dsus4/F# C2
And in his law does he meditate day and night.

C2 Em7 D
And he shall be like a tree planted by

G D C G D C
The rivers of water,

C Em
That bringeth forth his fruit in his season;

C Em D/F# C
His leaf also shall not wither;

Em D/F#
And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

G D C2

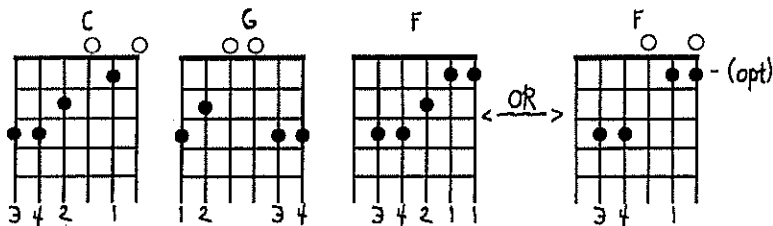
Love Never Fails

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-8 NASB

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels,
 but do not have love,
 I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy,
 and know all mysteries and all knowledge;
 and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
 but do not have love, I am nothing.

And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor,
 and if I surrender my body to be burned,
 but do not have love, it profits me nothing.



Love is patient, love is kind
 and is not jealous; love does not brag
 and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly;
 it does not seek its own, is not provoked,
 does not take into account a wrong suffered,
 does not rejoice in unrighteousness,
 but rejoices with the truth;
 bears all things, believes all things,
 hopes all things, endures all things.
 Love never fails;

I never imagined that I would sing words like-noisy gong or clanging cymbal-but as brash as these words sound, is exactly Paul's point. An unloving Christian is supposed to be this out of place. For years now, I still turn to this passage when I need love defined or re-defined.

Love is patient, love is kind...
 these words have popped
 into my mind at
 just the right time.

Words: Paul
 Music: Sherri

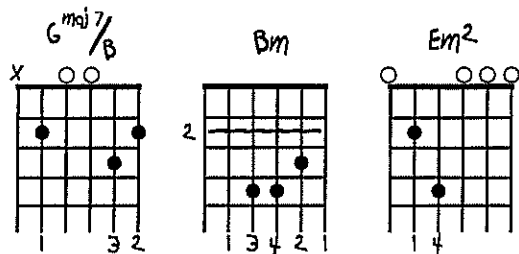
1 JOHN 4

Knowing God Through Love

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

John was an old man when he wrote this book. It is estimated that he was in his teens or early twenties when he first met Jesus. After walking with Him on earth, standing at the foot of the bloody cross, seeing Jesus appear resurrected, and being the last of the twelve apostles still alive- this is what he wanted to tell us.

"Beloved let us love one another..."



Beloved
 1 JOHN 4:7-8 NKJV

Beloved,
 Let us love one another,
 for love is of God;
 and everyone who loves is born of God
 and knows God.

Beloved Beloved

He who does not love
 does not know God, for God is love.

The Lord Is My Shepherd

PSALM 23 NKJV

key of B (capo 9 play in D)
intro D C² D C G

D C²
The LORD is my shepherd;

D
I shall not want.

D C² G
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

D C² D
He leads me beside the still waters.

D C² G
He restores my soul;

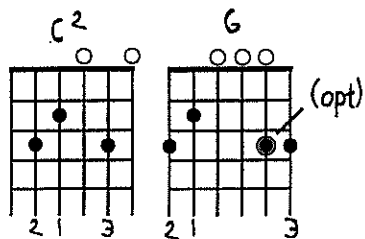
D C² D
He leads me in the paths of righteousness

D C² G
For His name's sake.

Am C² G
Yea, though I walk through the valley

D Am
of the shadow of death,

C G
I will fear no evil;



This recording of Psalm 23 has a hopeful melody on purpose. It is from the perspective of having walked through the valley and come through the other side. The Lord has been, will be, and IS my Shepherd.

The melody is one that I hope will be easy to recall and sing to your soul when you need to remember who is taking care of you.

Am C²
For You are with me;

G D Am C G
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

(instrumental / like intro)

D C² D
You prepare a table before me

D C² G
in the presence of my enemies;

D C² D
You anoint my head with oil;

D C² G
My cup runs over.

Am C² G D Am
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

C² G
All the days of my life;

Am C² G D
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD

Am C² G
Forever.

Be Anxious For Nothing
PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 NKJV

key of B (capo 4 play in G)

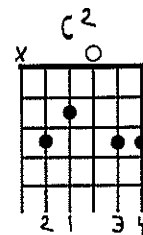
PHILIPPIANS 4

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything
 by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving,
 let your requests be made known to God;
 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all
 understanding, will guard your hearts and
 minds through Christ Jesus.

I read this verse on the wall at my friend's house. It was late
 at night when I stood and read it slowly. I will admit that
 this song is meant to get stuck in your head. I also have to
 admit that these words have challenged me more than any
 other song on this CD.
 I was tempted to put a question mark
 after the title.

Paul wrote these words while in prison.

^G
 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything
^{Em}
 by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving,
^{C² D}
 let your requests be made known to God;
^{C² D}
 and the peace of God,
^{Am C}
 which surpasses all understanding,
^{C D Am}
 will guard your hearts and minds
^{G C}
 through Christ Jesus.



Words: Paul
 Music: Sherri

HABAKKUK 3

A Hymn of Faith

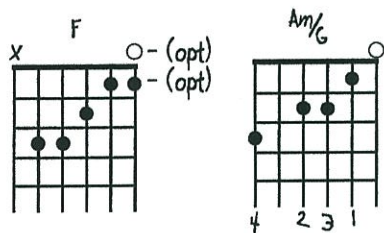
17 Though the fig tree may not blossom,
 Nor fruit be on the vines;
 Though the labor of the olive may fail,
 And the fields yield no food;
 Though the flock may be cut off from the
 fold,
 And there be no herd in the stalls—
 18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
 I will joy in the God of my salvation.

When I was asked to go to a Pastor's Wives Retreat on the East Coast, it was especially meaningful to me because I would get to see my friend Mary Barrett. Mary was fighting cancer and we weren't sure up until the last minute if she would be strong enough to lead worship.

The theme of the retreat was the book of Habakkuk; the teaching was superb and the exclamation point to each message was the strength and hope that was displayed every time Mary stepped behind the microphone.

We all witnessed these words lived out as Mary was radiant with joy.

This song is for you my friend.



Yet I Will Rejoice

HABAKKUK 3:17-18 NKJV

key A^b (capo 8 play in C)

intro: C G Dm

Though the fig tree may not blossom

Nor fruit be on the vines

Though the labor of the olive may fail,

And the fields yeild no food;

Though the flock may be cut off from the fold

And there be no herd in the stalls-

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD,

I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Man Of Sorrows ISAIAH 53:1-6 KJV

^{Am} Who has believed our report? ^G

And to whom is the ^{Am} arm of the LORD revealed? ^G

For he shall grow up before him ^{Am} as a tender plant, ^G

and as a root out of a dry ground: ^{Am} ^G

He has ^{Am} no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, ^G

^{Am} there is no beauty that we should desire him. ^G

^{Dm} He is despised and rejected of men; ^{Am} a man of sorrows, ^G ^{Dm}

and acquainted with grief: ^{Am} ^G ^{Dm}

And we hid as it were our faces from him; ^{Am} ^G

he was despised and we esteemed him not. ^{Am} ^G

I have often opened my Bible to these verses in hopes of singing them. Isaiah gave this prophecy around 700 years before the birth of Christ. Even more remarkable is what the words say. My hope for this song is that it will be taken in slowly- meditated upon and studied. Jesus is stunning- everything about Him. I purposely placed Psalm 32 after this song.

^{Am} Surely he has borne our griefs, and ^G carried our sorrows:

^{Dm} yet we did esteem him stricken, ^{Am} ^G

^{Dm} smitten of God and afflicted.

^{Am} But he was wounded for our transgressions, ^G

he was bruised for our iniquities: ^{Am} ^G

the chastisement of our peace was upon him; ^{Am} ^G

and with his stripes we are healed. ^{Am} ^G

^{Dm} All we like sheep have gone astray; ^{Am} ^G

^{Dm} We have turned every one to his own way; ^{Am} ^G

^{Dm} and the Lord has laid on him ^{Am} ^G

^{Dm} the iniquity of us all. ^{Am} ^G ^{Am} ^G ^{Am}

Words: Isaiah

Music: Corey Welsh (my magnificent nephew) and Sherri

Songs of Deliverance

key of Em

PSALM 32: 1-7 NASB A Psalm of David. A Maskil.

Intro Em D(sus 4) C

Em
How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,

D(sus 4) C
Whose sin is covered!

Em
How blessed is the man to whom the LORD

D(sus 4) C
does not impute iniquity,

D C
And in whose spirit there is no deceit!

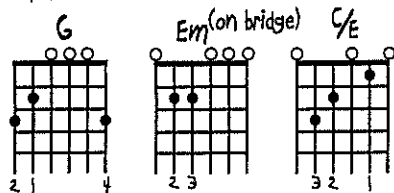
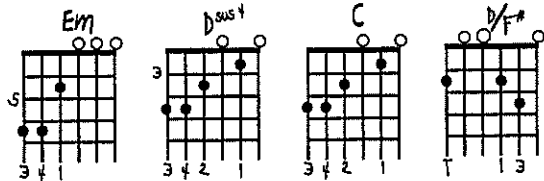
Em D(sus 4) C
When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away

Em
Through my groaning all day long.

D(sus 4) C
For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;

D(sus 4) C
My vitality was drained away

D(sus 4) C Em D(sus 4) C
as with the fever heat of summer. (Selah) ooh~



Em D/F# G
I acknowledged my sin to You,

D C
And my iniquity I did not hide;

Em
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD";

D C Em D/F# G D C
And You forgave the guilt of my sin. (Selah) ooh~

C D/F# G
Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to You

Em C
In a time when You may be found;

C C/E D/F# G C D
Surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him.

Em D/F# G
You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble;

D C
You surround me with songs of deliverance.

Em D/F# G D C
(Selah) ooh~

This was the second song that I worked on for this project. One evening after I had been going over the melody for days, the first line woke up with me in the middle of the night and pushed away a certain heaviness I was under. -How blessed is he (she) whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered! I understood David's exclamation more than ever. Forgiveness is the richest blessing a person can experience. Forgiveness is free for the asking, and I am rich because of it.

Words: David
Music: Sherri

PSALM 143

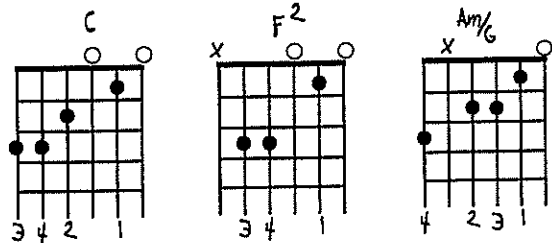
A psalm of David.

8 Let the morning bring me word of your
unfailing love,
for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way I should go,
for to you, I lift up my soul.
9 Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD,
for I hide myself in you.
10 Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God;
may your good Spirit
lead me on level ground.

(Prelude)

As I read these words one morning, they sang right off the page to my mind. In fact, the song stayed in my mind until the day that Danny asked me to bring out the next song. I had never bothered trying to play it, so I sang the song to him. After he quickly figured out the chords, he ran to "Oma's" pump organ (pictured on the album cover)- set up some microphones and we recorded this as is.

Later that day, we recorded the song with some different instruments. My good friends Shay and Suzanne were in the room while Danny recorded the dobro and mandolin. I think they added some charm to the sound of it-- don't you think?



Capo 5 key of F

Your Unfailing Love

PSALM 143: 8-10 NIV A Psalm of David

Let the morning bring me
Word of Your unfailing love,
For I have put my trust in You.
Show me the way I should go,
For to You I lift up my soul.

Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD,
For I hide myself in You.

Teach me to do Your will,
For You are my God;
May Your good Spirit
Lead me on level ground

Words: David
Music: Sherri

I Shall Not Be Afraid
PSALM 56:3-4, PSALM 121 NASB

^D When I am ^{Am} afraid, ^G
I will put my ^D trust in Thee.
In God, whose word I ^{Am} praise, ^G
In God I have ^D put my trust;
I shall not be ^{Am G D} afraid
What can mere man ^{Am G D} do to me?
I will lift up my ^C eyes to the ^G mountains;
From where shall my ^D help come?
My help comes from the ^C LORD, ^G
Who made ^D heaven and earth.
He will not allow your ^C foot to slip; ^G
He who keeps you will ^D not slumber.

^C Behold, He who keeps ^G Israel
^D Will neither slumber nor sleep.
^C The LORD is your keeper;
^G The LORD is your shade on your ^D right hand.
The sun will not smite you by ^C day, ^G
nor the moon by ^D night.
The LORD will protect you from all ^{Am} evil;
He will keep your ^D soul.
The LORD will ^{Am} guard your going out ^G
And your coming in ^D
From this time forth and forever. ^{C G D end Am G D}

This song started with the lines from Psalm 56 as the whole song. Then when I was out at my friend Ted's studio in Utah, he played something that turned my head to Psalm 121-the whole Psalm dropped in perfectly. Ted has helped me write music and vocal parts since my very first recording. Thanks Ted. Going out to the Morton's is always a family reunion for me.

Words: David
Music: Ted Morton and Sherri

Heaven

REVELATION 21:1-4 NKJV

key of D (Tune low "E string" down to "D")

intro D G^{maj 7}/B D G^{maj 7}/B

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth,

For the first heaven and the first earth

Had passed away.

Also there was no more sea.

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem,

Coming down out of heaven from God,
Prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying,

"Behold the tabernacle of God is with men,

And He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people.

God Himself will be with them and be their God.

be their God.

Words: John

Music: Ted Morton and Sherri

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes;

There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes;

There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.

There shall be no more pain, for the former things

Have passed away."

Years ago my friend Debbi asked me to come sing to a woman who was in her last moments on earth. I sang at the foot of her bed, and Debbi climbed up and softly read scriptures to her about heaven. Though the frail woman could not use words, her countenance spoke clearly. This song is for those who might wish to climb up next to a loved one and speak softly to them about heaven. Or maybe you are the one who needs to remember- that God will wipe away every tear. There are wonderful promises that come with these words and I am praying that every one of them will be realized by you. God bless you as you listen.

