



“Lead Me to Some Soul Today”

A Challenge to Christians Today

Nervous about this lesson – scary dreams.

This will be a lesson of encouragement for ME – perhaps even more than you. I NEED IT!

Personally important! I am a product of personal evangelism!

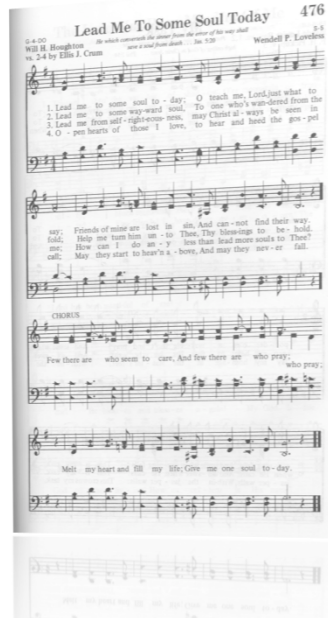
Lets start with a basic question: Why are you here?

Background:

1st stanza & chorus by:
Will H. Houghton

2-4 stanzas by:
Ellis J. Crum
(also David Bennett)

Score by:
Wendell P. Loveless



The text of stanza 1 was written by Will Henry Houghton (1887-1947). A Baptist minister, he became president of Moody Bible Institute at Chicago, IL, in 1934.

The first verse was written in memory of D.L. Moody, who said: "I must speak to one soul each day about Christ."

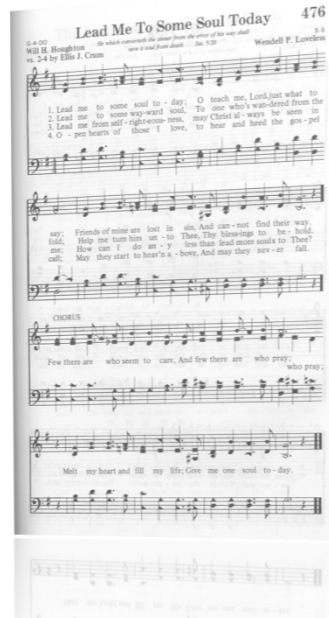
The tune was composed by Wendell Phillips Loveless (1892-1987). A businessman, he became director of the radio department at Moody Bible Institute, and later served as a minister. The song seems to have been first printed in one of Loveless's five volume series "Radio Songs and Choruses of the Gospel."

For many years this song appeared as a one-stanza chorus. The text of stanzas 2-4 in "Hymns for Worship Revised" was written by Ellis J. Crum (b. 1928). It was first published in his 1977 "Special Sacred Selections."

Two additional stanzas with a new chorus by David Bennett will be presented later in this talk.

Did you sing
the song?

Did you mean
the words you
sang?



As it is with many of the songs we sing they become a familiar recitation of words and melodies.

We often don't give the thought to the words and how they impact us personally in our spiritual lives.

We'll examine the words of this song and ask the questions together that we should be asking ourselves.

My hope is this will empower and encourage us all in our desire to serve God.

Song reference verse...

James 5:20 (NIV)

- “remember this:
- Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.”

I don't know who adds the scriptures to the songs but this one is powerful.

James asks us to remember something important...

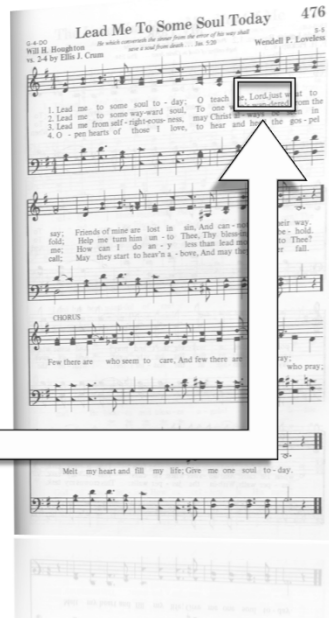
When we are involved in turning a sinner from their sin we become a part of their salvation.

God's grace can, when properly taught and applied, cover a multitude of sin.

This is a noble and righteous endeavor every Christian should be ready to do.

Who is this
song
addressing?

Is this a
prayer to
God?



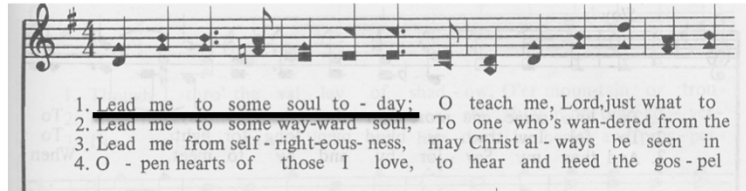
This song is a plea and a prayer to the Lord God for help, guidance, strength, and open hearts.

As a prayer – are we taking this request too lightly? Do we mean the words we are singing?

Do we mean what we are asking?

The intent of the prayer is summarized in; “How can I do any less that lead more souls to Thee?”

Words to consider...



- Who? – “Lead **ME**...”
- What? – “to some soul...”
- When? – “today”

This opening line has much meaning stated in it's text.

Let's review the who, what, and when, of this line...

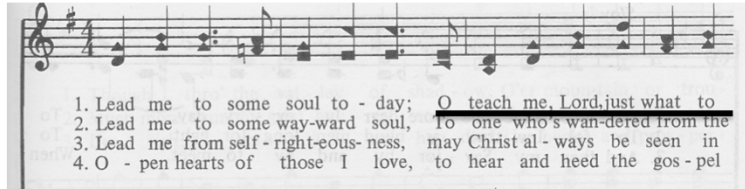
Who? ME

What? To some soul, any sould, anywhere.

When? Today, NOW, with urgency, not put off to tomorrow.

Remember the statement of D.L. Moody, who said: "I must speak to one soul each day about Christ."

Words to consider...



- Who? – “teach **ME**...”
- What? – “just what to say”

The importance of personal evangelism cannot be overstated.
We must become teachers of the gospel message of salvation.
How we do it is up to you.

Consider Hebrews 5:12-13

“Although by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to re-teach you the basic principles of God’s word. You need milk, not solid food! Everyone who lives on milk is still an infant, inexperienced in the message of righteousness....”

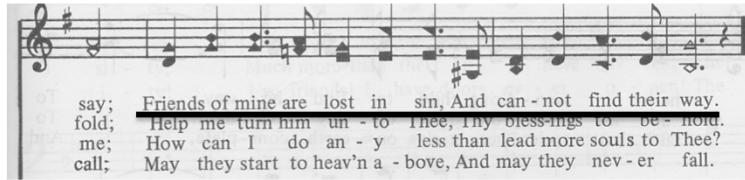
What are you doing to develop a better understanding of the gospel message?
How will the Lord teach you just what to say if you will not study his word?

2 Timothy 2:15 encourage us to;

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.”

Are you developing abilities to use the tools that are available to you?

Words to consider...



- Who? – Friends of mine...
- What? – Lost in sin...
- How? – Cannot find their way.

Think back to your own conversion for a minute...

Who taught you the gospel? Was it a friend or someone you came to know through friends?

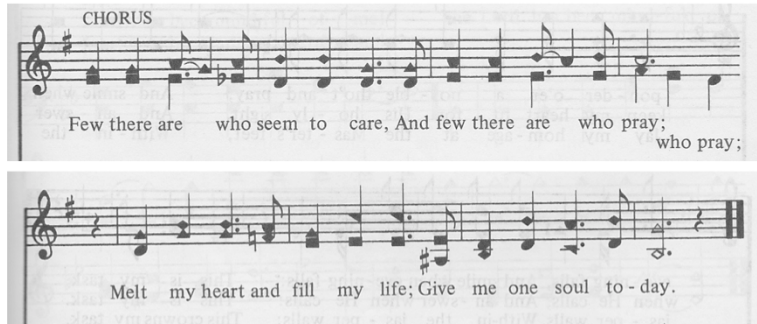
What if they had not taken the time to teach you or approach you with the good news?

Would you still be lost in sin? Would you have found your own way to salvation in Christ?

We need to lovingly consider the spiritual plight of our friends, family, and acquaintances.

Who will lead them to Jesus if we don't?

And the chorus...



- Do you CARE?
- Are you PRAYING?
- Is your HEART in it?

Luke 10:2

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

2 Corinthians 5:11

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men,...

Jude 1:22-23

Be merciful to those who doubt; save others by snatching them from the fire; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—

Col. 4:2-3

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

1 Tim. 2:1-4

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

THE INVITATION

▪ Haggai 1: 5 & 7

This is what the Lord Almighty says:
“Give careful thought to your ways.”

From the prophet Haggai (1:2-8)

2 This is what the Lord Almighty says: “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord’s house.’ ”

3 Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai:

4 “Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?”

5 Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways.

6 You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.”

7 This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways.

8 Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the Lord.

New verse & chorus to encourage!

Lead me to some soul real soon,
It matters not if night or noon;
Any hour of any day,
The time is opportune.

I must go Thy love to show
To sinners lost in night;
Flood my soul with love and light
To warn men of their plight.

(by David Bennett)

By David Bennett

New verse & chorus to encourage!

Lead me to some soul, I pray,
Thy "Great Commission" I'll obey;
I must tell men goin' to Hell
That Jesus is the Way.

Men must know before they die
That Christ alone can save;
Give me pow'r to witness, Lord,
And faith to make me brave.

(by David Bennett)

By David Bennett



Now it's up to you...

What will you do TOMORROW?

Today is almost over... but tomorrow is a new day for change.

We can believe in Christ as our Savior from sin – but will we GO and preach to all creation?

We need to put feet to our prayers and beliefs and actively share the salvation message in any way we can.

What will you DO tomorrow for Christ?

Will you...???

- Make a LIST of unsaved friends and family?
- Pray for opportunity to lead them to Christ?
- Pray for strength and boldness to talk to them?
- Invite them to you home?
- Ask them to come to church services with you?
- Attend the Soul-Winner's Workshop on Sept. 30?

Hebrews 11 teaches us that faith is always shown through ACTION!

Will you...???

- Invite them to see the Big Picture of the Bible?
- Send them the link to “Big Picture of the Bible LITE”?
- Invite them to read Muscle and a Shovel?
- Give them a bible teaching CD or DVD?
- Send them a link from AddedSouls.com?
- Or some other **ACTION**...????

Hebrews 11 teaches us that faith is always shown through ACTION!

What if...?

What if nothing changes... we continue with our current amount of effort... What happens?

Does the church here dwindle down to a few families who can't sustain the work?

Do we fire the preacher because we can't pay him.

Do we sell the building and disperse to other growing churches?

What if the Lord comes tonight? Will he view this branch as unfruitful and prune us off the vine?

Will we receive the condemnation of the church at Laodicea who were lukewarm in their service and were spit out of God's mouth.

Or would he be pleased with our efforts to do what Paul said the Colossians should do in Colossians 1:28-29...

"We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me."

What if you leave tonight not taking that step of faith to become one of God's own children?

Jesus made it plain in Mark 16:15-16 Believe and be baptized and you'll be saved.

Disbelieve and take no action of faith and you'll be condemned by God the judge of all men to everlasting punishment.

What will you commit to DO for God... The lesson is yours...