

Chief of Sinners though I Be

By: William McComb

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me;
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die;
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

O the height of Jesus' love! Higher than the Heaven above;
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity;
Love that found me—wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not!

Only Jesus can impart Comfort to a wounded heart;
Peace that flows from sin forgiven, Joy that lifts the soul to Heaven;
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own;
Safe with Him in earthly strife, I await the heav'nly life.

Strengthen me, O gracious Lord, By your Spirit and your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Notes:

Hymn # 385 from *Christian Worship*

Author: William McComb

Tune: Gethsemane

The hymn uses St. Paul's confession: Christ came to save sinners, of whom I am the worst! We live in a world that urges that warns us of the great harm we do to our children if we ever rebuke them or tell them their choices are wrong. Use this hymn to impress on them both that we do have sins – great sins, in fact – that we need to confess and help them learn to do so. And teach them through these words that God has an unimaginable love that washes those sins away and makes us his dearly loved children.

We'll sing this hymn in worship on Sunday, August 25th. Until then, consider using it as a bedtime or after-dinner hymn with your family. The music you'll find online includes a one verse introduction and all five verses of the hymn.