



Spring 2023 Newsletter



We wish you a joyful Spring from the Elisabeth Elliot Foundation!

In God's wise design, music can speak to our hearts deeply and uniquely. Music can also be a way in which we can speak to God in response. Colossians 3:16 tells us, "Let the word of Christ dwell richly among you, in all wisdom and teaching and admonishing one another through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts." (CSB)

Elisabeth spoke often of her affection for hymns. She grew up singing hymns around the breakfast table with her family, and she loved to share the ways God used that practice throughout her life. For example, she shared that the hymn *How Firm A Foundation* carried her through grief after she found out her husband Jim had been killed. She noted that many hymns of praise spurred her on toward obedience whether she was in a season of sorrow or one of joy. And while Elisabeth was musically gifted, she encouraged all Christians with the words, "Never mind how we sound, for our singing is to the Lord".

Elisabeth knew that our Creator fashioned us to experience meaningful fellowship with Him when we worship through song. When we sing to Him in praise, we are led to respond to Him with gratitude. When we feel weighed down with despair, singing truths about Him orients us to His unchanging character and faithfulness. Singing calls for humility and vulnerability that helps us place our hearts in His gentle and loving hands.

This month, we are delighted to offer you some wonderful resources from Elisabeth about her beloved hymns. It is our prayer these works will inspire you to lift your heart to the Lord in song through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.



News & Updates

Ellen Vaughn's final volume of Elisabeth's authorized biography, [Being Elisabeth Elliot](#), is complete and is now at B&H Publishers. We are rejoicing that this project will be released this fall. Watch for more information as the publication date nears.

The entire Elisabeth Elliot Foundation board had the privilege of being together in person for the first time since the Foundation's beginnings. We gathered in Washington, D.C. at the end of March to attend the opening celebration [at the Museum of the](#)

[BBN \(Bible Broadcasting Network\)](#) is in the process of producing a Spanish-language version of Gateway to Joy episodes. They'll hit radio airwaves soon! We are praying for the production process, and that the audience will be blessed and strengthened in their faith.

Our staff member, Mike Cantrell, recently returned from a fruitful trip to the Billy Graham Archives at the Wheaton College library. He spent four days culling through Elisabeth's many, many letters, photos, tapes, and more that are stored at the library thanks to our Wheaton

Bible for the exhibit about Elisabeth's life and ministry. We rejoiced in the

Lord together at being able to witness this powerful testimony, and are excited about what God may do in the lives of the Museum's visitors. Stay tuned for photos & more about our time together.

partners. We look forward to sharing some of those items with you soon!

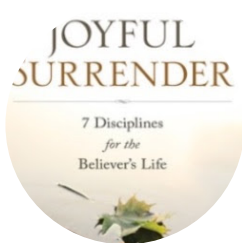
Teachings of the Season

Hymns & Worship

*"...But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.
I will sing the Lord's praise,
for he has been good to me."*

Psalm 13:6

- *Be Still My Soul*- In this beautiful book, Elisabeth uses the title of one of her favorite hymns as her unifying theme. She offers an inspiring collection of reflections on living the Christian life with peace and purpose.
- *A Gateway to Joy Series about Hymns*- This series of Gateway to Joy talks offers an intimate look at Elisabeth discussing her favorite hymns and her desire for Christians to praise God throughout their lives.
- *Whatever Happened to Hymns?*- A newsletter from May, 1999 offers insight from Elisabeth about the way God has used hymns in her life, and suggests practical ways we might incorporate singing hymns in our own lives.



The Book



Gateway to Joy



Newsletter

Word from the Board

Elisabeth loved and appreciated music. She enjoyed classical hymns of old, and singing around the piano that she played as gracefully as she spoke! Unfortunately, I never had the opportunity to hear her play, but her friends and family often attest to her incredibly gifted musical abilities.

My special time around Elisabeth's beloved piano was in June 2015—a few hours after her funeral. In the house that evening with me were my husband, Elisabeth's husband Lars, and five of the precious caregivers who, throughout the years, had lovingly tended to Elisabeth's physical needs and spiritual encouragement. Each young woman had her own unique and treasured memories of her time living at 10 Strawberry Cove.

I watched the Atlantic waters through the window, where Elisabeth had set her gaze nearly every day for the last 38 years. The five caregivers had bravely decided to venture down to the ocean rocks. There they swam in solidarity to honor their beloved Elisabeth's life, and her own love for swimming in the ocean. When they came in, there was a flurry of activity near the front oceanside door. They were pink cheeked and smiling as they sat together on the couch with still wet hair and the cups of hot tea I had just made for each of them. As we sat together, we all knew that Elisabeth's piano was beckoning! They gathered around the piano, and Lars, my husband, and I turned our chairs to sing Elisabeth's favorite hymns with them one last time. With joy in our hearts and tears in our eyes, we all felt somehow Elisabeth might be listening to

this tribute song, along with “the great cloud of witnesses” Hebrews 12 points us to. I watched those young women who had so tenderly and selflessly cared for this special woman of God... the ones who played the piano for her, bathed her, dressed and fed her, and tended to her every need in those last years of her life. Their presence was a sweet reminder of Christ’s selflessness as He washed the feet of His disciples. I felt as though we were experiencing a bit of heaven as we heard Elisabeth’s piano so sweetly playing along with their beautiful voices. The music ended, and I gazed across the ocean at the mauve sunset God had painted over the skyline that evening. A remembrance of Elisabeth and her love of music made it clear it was well with our souls...

You might ask, where is Elisabeth’s piano today? Well, it made its way several years ago from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast, and it’s now enjoying its new place in the old Elliot Oregon homestead. It continues to bring great musical joy for hymn singing to a new generation of Elliots. As we know, just as Elisabeth would have it... all for God’s glory.

Grace and peace,

Kathy Reeg

President

The Elisabeth Elliot Foundation



***We hope you enjoy the lyrics of one of Elisabeth's favorite hymns,
"Sands of Time."***

The sands of time are sinking,
the dawn of heaven breaks,
the summer morn I've sighed for,
the fair sweet morn awakes;
dark, dark hath been the midnight,
but dayspring is at hand,
and glory, glory dwelleth
in Emmanuel's land.

The King there in his beauty
without a veil is seen;
it were a well-spent journey,
though sev'n deaths lay between:
the Lamb with his fair army
doth on Mount Zion stand,
and glory, glory dwelleth
in Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, he is the fountain,
the deep sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted,

more deep I'll drink above:
there to an ocean fullness
his mercy doth expand,
and glory, glory dwelleth
in Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment,
but her dear bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory,
but on my King of grace;
not at the crown he gifteth,
but on his pierced hand:
the Lamb is all the glory
of Emmanuel's land.

From the Scrapbook

Music with Elisabeth

A list of Elisabeth's favorite hymns, images of her beloved piano, & worship with fellow Believers...

