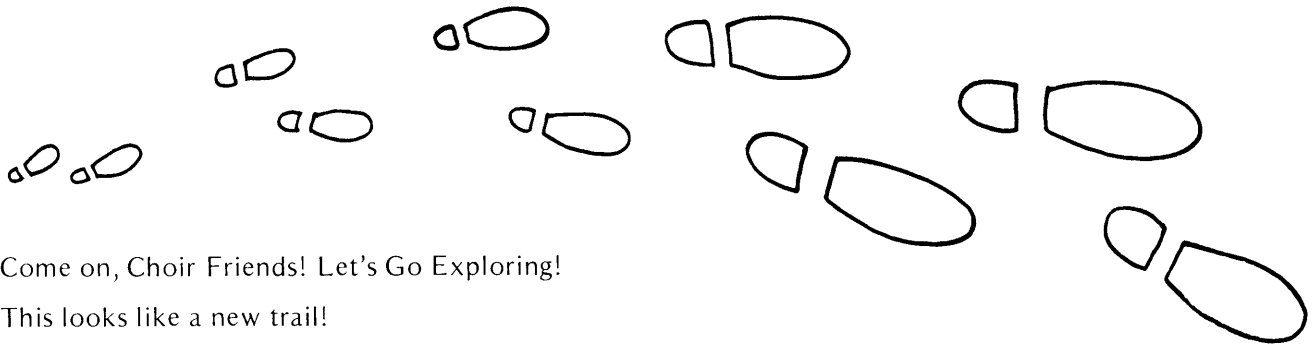


HE WHO WOULD VALIANT BE



Come on, Choir Friends! Let's Go Exploring!

This looks like a new trail!

Be careful! No telling what's up ahead!

A "**PILGRIM**" is someone who travels a long, difficult trail to show his love and devotion for God. The Israelites were "Pilgrims" as they made the dangerous journey from Egypt to the Promised Land of Canaan.

The first helpers Jesus chose were "Pilgrims" too, as they left their homes and went with Him to teach people about God's plans. Can you name three of these helpers?

What work did each leave to follow Jesus?

What were some of the dangers and discouragements they faced?

How do you suppose they felt when Jesus was crucified? What changed their feelings?

As you sing *He Who Would Valiant Be* could the thoughts apply to life today? Could you imagine being a "pilgrim" for God? The words, "We know we at the end shall life inherit," you may not understand right now, but we all really **do know** that following Jesus as Master of our lives can be an exciting adventure!

Listen to how the strong tune fits the spirit of the words.

By the way, something's missing at the beginning of the music! Maybe you can figure out why there's no **TIME SIGNATURE**. First, count the number of beats in each measure. What do you discover?

Perhaps your choir director could play this tune in 3/4 time. Is it as strong as the way it's written? See how the strong feeling of the hymn words was spoiled by the waltz rhythm. Playing the tune in 4/4 time won't help the words to fit right! Poems and hymn words sometimes need **FREE TIME** so that the important words of the text can fall on accented beats of the tune. Some of the hymnals completely leave out **TIME SIGNATURES** so that people will think more about the meaning of the words they are singing.

John Bunyan, who wrote the words, also wrote a book, *Pilgrim's Progress*, about a man named "Christian" who goes on a long pilgrim journey through the world looking for the Cross. Perhaps your choir director will tell you some of his adventures on the journey and what he found at the end. At one time the book had been translated into more languages than any other book except the Bible!

How about all choir boys and girls everywhere being "**PILGRIMS**" too?