

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST

God's plan for the world is mentioned by Paul in his letter to the Ephesians (1:9-10). "He has made known to us his hidden purpose . . . that the universe, all in heaven and on earth, might be brought into a unity in Christ." It is this scripture that gives the basis for our hymn.

To be certain that persons would understand His plan, God's Son lived on earth as a human being and gave us His example of fellowship with men and women of all social positions, all faiths, all races, and all levels of intelligence. What is Jesus' amazing teaching of God's way of love found in Matthew 5:43-48?

Write it in three words. _____

How does this fit into the thought of our hymn's first line? _____

John Oxenham, who wrote this hymn and many other religious poems, was not only a poet, but also a business man in England. He said: "Science has made the world a neighborhood; it remains for the Church of Christ to make it a brotherhood." Do you think enough is being done by all of us to help make these words come true -- become a reality -- in our world? What else do you think could be done by all of us? _____

Over a million copies of Oxenham's poems and hymns were read by soldiers in World War I. Do you know when this War occurred? Perhaps Oxenham was hoping the British soldiers would learn a lesson like that of the young American paratrooper shot down over enemy territory in World War II. He wrote: "A poor French farmer found me, a Negro GI, and a German helped me hide; a Catholic priest smuggled me to a field hospital; a Jewish surgeon operated on my injured leg to save my life; and back home again, I promised never to shut my door to any person in need -- regardless of their race or religion." What was the story Jesus told of an injured man in Luke 10:30-37? The story of _____

The tune was composed by a church organist at Oxford, England whose name was Alexander R. Reinagle. The name that has been given to the tune is *St. Peter*. What other hymn words are sung to this tune? _____

Do you remember that C.M. means Common Meter? How many syllables per line in Common Meter? _____

In music writing some notes "step" and some notes "skip." "Step" notes are found in singing a scale. "Skip" notes have long jumps or intervals. Draw a circle on the back at each place in the melody where the tune "skips" -- does not go to the very next note, above or below. Did you find five skips? _____

At what places in the worship service would this hymn be appropriate? _____



Especially in these times, in this country, yes, and around the world, each of us must learn to be our "brother's keeper," bound by our common relationship to God:

*"Join hands, then, brothers of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be.
Who serves my Father as a son
Is surely kin to me."*