

Jesu, Jesu

It's a cold rainy day. As you enter the school building, you are shivering and feeling as soggy as the last Cheerio in your breakfast bowl. Then, out of nowhere, a tall figure quickly approaches and stands staring at you. It's the Principal! "I didn't do it," you protest! To your amazement, he helps you take your wet coat off, then removes his own suit coat and wraps you up in it. He takes out his handkerchief and wipes the mud off your shoes, then hurries on to the next student and starts all over again!

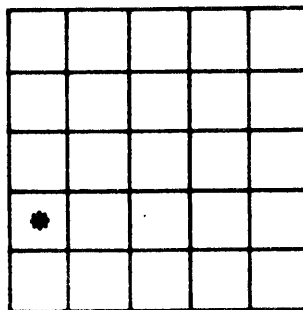
A scene like that seems pretty impossible, doesn't it? Yet, there once was a time when something even stranger than that happened. You can read about it in John 13:1-17. When Jesus washed the feet of his friends, he did a job that only servants or slaves did. And Jesus was more than a school principal -- he was and still is God.

The four stanzas of "Jesu, Jesu" tell us about this story. The words to this song make me uneasy because I know I don't always think about how I can help others. In fact, sometimes, even when I do think about it, I decide not to bother helping anyway. That's why I like the *Refrain* of this song. The Bible tells us that, on our own, we will often choose to do the wrong things (Romans 7:18), but if we ask God to make us more like Him, he will help us to choose the right thing (Philippians 2:13). It is hard for us to love people that are not very lovable, but if we ask God to put his Holy Spirit inside us, He will show us how to love.

A piece of music is like a picture with a special design or pattern. Sometimes the patterns of musical notes and sounds repeat themselves. This is called a *Sequence*. Which pattern below best fits the sequence in the stanzas of "Jesu, Jesu?"

1. * * * * *
2. * * * * *
3. * * * * *

The *Refrain* has a sequence, too. Find it and fill in squares on the grid below so that it will have the same pattern as the musical notes. Use the "*" as your first mark.



When you know where the sequences are in a melody, if there are any, you can learn to sing it or play it more quickly, and you will also understand more about the *Structure* of music -- the way it is put together. The melody for "Jesu, Jesu" is a folk tune from Ghana, a country in Africa.