

WHAT'S IN A SONG?

By Sally Campbell



Breathe

By Marie Barnett (CCLI Lic#1302488)

In the song “Breathe” by Marie Barnett, the songwriter draws our attention to the very intimacy of faith; it is our entire world. The air we breathe, the food we eat. It shapes our understanding and alters our view. Things portrayed as hopeless, with faith can now be viewed through eyes of as hope. Events meant to intimidate can be understood as powerless. Anger meant to dominate and harm, are now seen as coming from a place of fear and anxiety.

Have you ever had someone attempt to explain your faith to you, without any faith of their own? It stands to reason that they would see your faith as child-like and lacking in adult intelligence; “Oh, you actually believe in a virgin birth?” Or they might describe it as self-serving and deceitful: “No one helps people for free or out of the ‘goodness of their heart’. You can’t expect me to believe that “. ¹ Faith in Christ is radical, in that it is opposite to human nature, which seeks self-preservation above all else and a total reliance on personal strength.

Faith in Christ is a gift given to any who will believe and trust that he is God. The gift is two-fold in that it gives us assurance that he is committed to our well-being and provides us with eyes to see the world through his eyes so we can love our fellow humans. Through faith we see a larger picture. We see hope. We see comfort. And, it is just as true that, through faith, we can pass on that hope and comfort to other weary travelers on the road of life. But be warned; if you think that this trust is simply a mere formula for avoiding life’s pain, then faith becomes meaningless. Faith is not a license to escape the pains of life, but a means of comfort and clarity in it. It is in those moments of life we are utterly lost if not anchored in our faith.

Because Christ is the giver of this gift, we must continually draw our strength from him, so that this broken world makes sense. ² It takes courage to trust in an idea so radically opposed to our human nature. But, that courage is freely given of God, through the act of sacrifice and what is required of us is believing that he is capable of air conditioning and carpeting a large fish” ³, as well as loving us individually and completely willing to guide us through the minefield of life.

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence, living in me
This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your every word, spoken to me

And I, I'm desperate for you...



1. 1 Corinthians 1:25

2. John 15:4.

3. Howard G Hendricks (author/DTS professor) speaking on Jonah