

Thy will be done



Placing ourselves completely into God's hands can be challenging. If you need help in that area, pray these words from Thomas à Kempis: "Lord, you know what is best. May your will decide what shall be done. Give what you will, how much you will and when you will. Do what you know is best for me. Do what pleases you and brings your name

most honor.

"Put me where you will, and deal with me in all things as you please. I am in your hand — turn me backwards and forwards, turn me upside down. Here I am, your servant, ready for anything, for I have no desire to live for myself but only to live perfectly and worthily for you."

Christ still calls us

The rugged hills of Galilee drop down to meet the sea
Where burly men still mend their nets, still fish there eagerly.

The sea's the same place where Christ said, "Lay down your nets and heed
My call to love all people, and serve them in their need."

"I'll help you fish for humankind," he told them long ago.
His call's still heard, His help's still real today, as we well know.

Yes, people still are leaving "nets" wherever they might be,
And as disciples still go forth to serve Christ willingly. —Peggy Ferrell

A hunger for the heights

In a sermon titled "Sky Hunger," Stan Purdum explores Ephesians 1:3, where Paul writes about God blessing us "in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" (ESV). The expression "sky hunger," says the pastor, "suggests that to be the best earthbound people we can be, we need to lift our eyes to a higher place — the *highest* place."

While on a mission trip in Kentucky, Purdum discovered that many residents refer to pastors as sky pilots. "What better role can a pastor have," he asks, "than to point people to the skies, to the God Most High?"

The Easter anthem "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," which celebrates our ultimate destination, sums up another definition of sky hunger:

Soar we now where Christ has led, alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, *the skies*, alleluia!

"That to which our holy restlessness, our inner discontent, our sky hunger points us is Christ," Purdum concludes. "Sky hunger is a blessing from God, Paul tells us, to bring us into Christ, to fullness of life and to life eternal."

