

JOHN MARK MCMILLAN



Artist:

JOHN MARK MCMILLAN
JOHNMARKMCMILLAN.COM

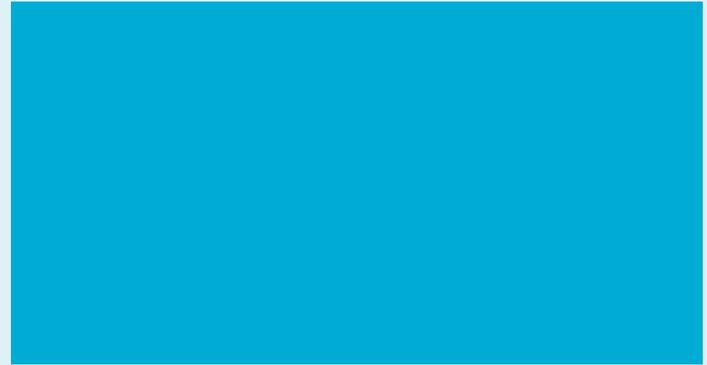
Album Title & Record Company:

BORDERLAND
LIONHAWK RECORDS

Song:

LOVE AT THE END

Study by:

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Theme

God's Love

Objective

In this lesson your students will look at the fact that even in these dark days, or the end of time, God's love is always there.

Warm Up

Charades – Divide your group into two teams, perhaps by birthdate, shoe size, or some other arbitrary random marker. Use the following phrases from the lyric: *I'm on the Brink / Taste the Tempest / Tell the Reaper / Repo Man / My rabbit's running / The street hot heels of Rome / Out of the gaslight / Down by the wayside / The sheen of Babylon / Reconcile with the dawn / Ruin pushes rubble / City of sin / Born into your arms / You're my country / Hills where I belong / Love at the end of the world / I've got nothing that belongs to him*

Rules for charades: The phrases are written on slips of paper and divided into two baskets. A player from Team A draws a phrase slip from Team B's basket. After he/she has had a short time to review the slip, the timekeeper for team B notes the time and tells the player to start. Team A then has three minutes to guess the phrase. If they guess they get one point. If they do not

figure it out in three minutes, the timekeeper announces that the time is up and the team gets no point. A player from Team B draws a phrase slip from Team A's basket, and play proceeds as above.

The Song

John Mark McMillan uses poetic language to paint word pictures. While your students listen to the song, have them draw four items/symbols from the lyric. Then answer the questions:

- What do you think John Mark McMillan means by the "sheen of Babylon?"
- What is deceiving about the glitter of this world?
- Who is the Reaper or the RepoMan?
- Do you have something that belongs to him?
- What do you think John Mark means when he says, "Ruin pushes rubble in the city of sin?" Do you find this to be true?
- Would you expect to find Love at the end of the world? Explain.

Bible Study

The Bible contains many passages of apocalyptic literature—passages that paint a picture of the end times. The album *Borderland* by John Mark McMillan is filled with images and songs about living on the border

between heaven and earth, this age and the next. The Bible also has many passages that deal with this same theme. Have your students read **Daniel 12:1-4** and answer the questions:

- Retell in your own words what this passage describes.
- Do you believe we are in the "end times"?
- Should that make a difference in the way you live?
- The angel told Daniel "those who are wise will shine like the brightness of heaven." What would label someone as wise? How can a person become wise? (Read **Proverbs 9:10**.)

Have your students read **Isaiah 61** and answer the questions:

- Isaiah speaks of God giving beauty instead of ashes, joy instead of mourning, and praise instead of despair. Which one of these is the most comforting to you?
- The song speaks of being on the brink, and yet finding love at the end of the world. What are you on the brink of: hope or despair, joy or mourning, beauty or ashes?

Have your students read **Psalms 139:1-12** and answer the questions:

- Is there anything about you hidden from God?

- Does the fact that He knows what you will say before you say it scare you?
- Does it comfort you that God's hand is upon you?
- Where can you go to get away from the Spirit of God?
- Why isn't dark a problem for God?
- The lyric speaks of the Grim Reaper and the Repo Man. Who is John Mark referring to?
- The Scripture says that even after death, God is there. Is the Grim Reaper a problem for God?

Wrap Up

Read **1 Corinthians 13:12-13**. There are lots of things we do not yet know. According to this passage, when will it all become clear? Even at the end of the world, what three things will remain?

Close by reading **Romans 8:38** together aloud from the Student Guide:

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SEASON 2 Premiering NOW. Subscribe. *For more EXCLUSIVE "behind the scenes" footage & performances. © 2020 by KMediaDesign. The Song is a 2014 American romantic drama film written and directed by Richard Ramsey. The film follows about a singer-songwriter, whose marriage suffers when the song he wrote for his wife propels him to stardom. The film was inspired by the Song of Songs and the life of Solomon. Jed King is the son of successful country music legend, David King. Jed meets Rose, the daughter of a vineyard owner, and marries her. He writes a song about her that propels him to stardom. Conflict arises when King... The Song starts like some of its clunkier faith-based predecessors. We soon learn it boasts both fine music and a sense of how temptation can rock even a strong marriage. September 26, 2014 | Rating: 3/4 | Full Review; Christian Toto. HollywoodInToto.com. Watching The Song is like listening to rock music on a religious station; you think, "Not bad for Christian radio." September 26, 2014 | Full Review; Marsha McCreadie. Film Journal International. Normally, you can't lose with good material.