

# O Lord We've Come

Words & Music by Nigel Bruce  
G/C

Melody C7 Dm7/C C7 Dm7/C C Dm7/C

treble

bass

C Am7

O Lord we've come to wor\_\_ship You we lift up our voices in praise

Fadd9 G/F Bb G7

Be fore the throne of Grace we bow to be per\_\_fect in Your eyes

C Am7

in this qui\_\_et moment with You our hea\_\_vy hearts we give to You

Fadd9 G/F Bb G7

let our minds\_\_be cleansed renewed so let these words live in my heart

C Dm Am7 G

Let the Spirit descend set our hearts on fire\_ O\_pen our eyes to see Your glo\_ry

C Dm Am7 G

Let our ears hear Your words to know more of You\_ Your life entwined in mine so the world knows You

F CE Dm C7 Dm7/C

we surren\_der our lives to You in this hour of prayer

C7 Dm7/C C7 Dm7/C C7 Dm7/C C7 Dm7/C

C Dm7/C G/C C7

Song origins: I was sitting in church one December morning and I suddenly had the C7 chord at the front of my mind. Soon I was writing the lyrics and as soon as we got home I sat at the piano and the song was birthed.

### School of grace

One of the significant issues facing Christianity today is the issue of worship. It has always been a very divisive issue and impinges on every other aspect of the Christian faith.

When we think of worship we may come up with all kinds of mental images, but they generally all revolve around the concept of people meeting together for the weekly 'worship service'. There is singing, there is prayer, there is a sermon, there is a scripture reading, there is a special kids segment, there are offerings and on special occasions baptisms, the Eucharist [or whatever name given to the special service], and calendar events like Easter, and Christmas. We then go and have lunch often talking about how good the minister was today, how the music feel apart this time and whether it went for too long. Our routine of worship goes on week after week, year after year and we think we are well versed in 'worship theology and practice'.

But grace strips away all of our knowledge. It asks us to see worship in a much different light. Worship is then not defined by our actions but in the character of God. Our worship is then not about how good we are but at how good God is. It is not about what we do week to week but what God does every hour of every day. It is not about how penitent or sorry we are, it is about how willing God is to forgive. It is not about how worthy we are, but about how worthy God is.

Our music then should not be defined by musical styles, musical tastes, or the different types of worship songs. It should be defined by how 'grace-full' they are. Our sermons should, likewise, should point us to the mercy of God. The format of the program doesn't matter because ultimately our worship is not defined by the success or failure of whatever model we use. It is whether sinners find unconditional love in this environment.

But even if this was all our worship was, week-to-week, it would fail. We spend hours planning these corporate 'events' but what about our personal worship. Personal worship is perhaps even more important than corporate worship because it deals with the particulars between me and God. Here, it doesn't matter how good a musician you are, you can still sing to God. Here, your prayers are the opening up of your inner most thoughts to one who understands your inner most thoughts. The 'sermons' are not about particular agendas. They are focusing your attention on the love of God. It is here that we give our true offerings. It is here where we need to hear God, to know him intimately, to see his mercy and it is here we need to surrender.

Our worship is also not confined to these 'actions'. Our worship should then flow into our every day lives. We are freely forgiven so we should freely forgive others. We are offered unconditional love so we should love others unconditionally. We are shown absolute mercy so we should show absolute mercy to others. Otherwise we are then merely worshipping with words not lives. We are more focused on the things we do than what God does. We are trying to achieve something in a worship that makes God look favorably upon us. Our worship is trying to be perfect in our eyes, not God's eyes.

## **O Lord We've Come to Worship**

**O Lord we've come to worship You  
We lift up our voices in praise  
Before the throne of grace we bow  
To be perfect in your eyes**

**In this quiet moment with You  
Our heavy hearts we give to You  
Let our minds be cleansed renewed  
So let these words live in my heart**

**Let the Spirit descend set our hearts on fire  
Open our eyes to see Your glory  
Let our ears hear Your words to know of You  
Your life entwined in mine so the world knows You  
We surrender our lives to You in this hour of prayer**