

HE

Music by Jack Rickards, Lyrics by Richard Mullin, 1955, as recorded by Tammy Wynette
Please read the lyrics (in black), as the recording technology of the 1950's makes it hard to hear the words.
The underlined colored words are some of the key ASL signs of this conceptual language.

Verse 1

He can turn the tides and calm the angry sea.

***HE** touches burning anger and turns it to calmness.*

He alone decides who writes a symphony.

***HE** can turn ugly feelings into something beautiful.*

He lights every star that makes our darkness bright.

***HE** touches dark oppression with resolution.*

He keeps watch all through each long and lonely night.

***HE** knows when we feel alone and watches over us.*

He still finds the time to hear a child's first prayer.

***HE** has time for a child's first prayer and hears it.*

Saint or sinner calls and always finds Him there.

***HE** hears a sinner's cry for help. **HE** is there.*

Chorus

Though it makes him sad to see the way we live,

*I continue as a sinner and **HE** is sad, yet...*

He'll always says, "I forgive."

*...**HE** greets me, always, with the grace of love and forgiveness.*

Verse 2

He can grant a wish or make a dream come true,

*The dreams **HE** gives us bring satisfaction.*

He can paint the clouds and turn the gray to blue.

***HE** can renew the weary with inspiration.*

He alone knows where to find a rainbow's end.

*When afraid **HE** is your calm and comfort."*

He alone can see what lies beyond the bend.

***HE** knows the future. Just trust Him.*

He can touch a tree and turn the leaves to gold.

*With just a touch **HE** makes miracles happen.*

He knows every lie that you and I have told.

*The many lies we have told **HE** knows.*

Repeat Chorus

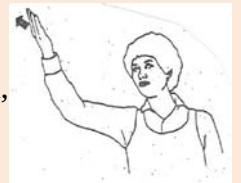
Ending

"Thee Gives Me Grace"

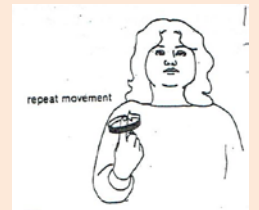


This is a song
about the
Goodness of God;
His Power,
His Love,
His Forgiveness,
His Grace!

THEE Move the right open hand from above the right shoulder a short distance upward, palm angled left and fingertips pointing up.



ALWAYS Move the extended right index finger in a small circle in front of the right shoulder by moving the whole arm, palm facing in and finger pointing up.
Hint: The circular movement shows something never ending.



TOUCH Touch the back of the left downturned curved hand with the right middle finger. The other fingers of the right open hand are extended. **Hint: A gesture of "touching."**



I LOVE YOU Hold the right hand up with palm facing forward. The thumb, index, and little fingers are extended. The letters I, L, and Y are combined.



GOD-LOVES-ME Start with the I-Love-You sign to the right and above and bring it down and place His love on your heart.

FORGIVE Brush the fingertips of the bent right hand, palm facing down, with a repeated movement from the heel to the fingers of the open left palm held up in front of the body.

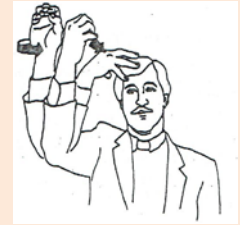
Hint: Brushing aside a mistake



GRACE

Beginning with the right thumb touching the fingertips, palm facing forward above the right shoulder. Then twist the wrist inward, spreading and wiggling the fingers while moving down to your heart.

Hint: The hand seems to take something from God and shower it down, and signifies God's divine love being bestowed freely upon mankind.



Devotional: The Gift of Grace

Courtesy of: Grand Canyon Christian University, Phoenix, Arizona

Grace was given to us as a gift of love from God, not because we earned it, but because He is good of heart. We are taught to not only give grace to ourselves, but to others as well. As humans, we can forget to live out of this grace we've been given. Instead, we tend to be hard on our own spirit.

We measure our success based on our accomplishments and achievements, which are worldly measurements for what makes a "good life." When we look at our checklists, we can learn to be grateful for what we have accomplished and give ourselves grace for what we have not yet accomplished. God also gives us grace where we sin and fall short. Instead of remaining in guilt, He extends forgiveness when we repent.

The same goes for recognizing the good works of others rather than their sins. We need to remember that we are all equal and everyone sins. Our power is made in weakness. When we are at our lowest is the time to recognize God's gift of grace. *We can rest in Him always.*

"God wants to pour out his goodness (*power, love, forgiveness*) to you (*grace*), so you can, in turn, pour it out to others."

American Sign Language (ASL) provides a fuller understanding of the song as the DEAF would "see" the signs. American Sign Language has a different sentence structure but often it gets to the real meaning of a song that "the hearing" may miss, being distracted by rhyme or music. See this song through new eyes.



"HANDS IN PRAISE" is an American Sign Language (ASL) Christian choir sponsored by Bethel Lutheran Church, Windsor, Colorado. For information, go to www.HandsInPraiseASL.com.

You are invited to join and no experience needed as sign language is learned one song at a time.

Please feel free to take this praise sheet home with you to read later or share with others who need the good news.