

Thematic Copywork Lessons
Great Hymns for Copywork
180 Daily Lessons

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For the Parent:

This series was written in response to popular request for material for daily copywork lessons. The books in this level, “Copywork for Young Ones,” were created for the child who is able to read well enough to understand the grammatical rules used in the selections they are copying. Some children in first grade may be ready for this series, while others may not be ready for it until around fourth grade. That’s OK; every child is different.

Charlotte Mason used copywork to teach and reinforce proper mechanics of the English language - capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and usage. Traditional copywork, from our perspective, is not for the purpose of practicing penmanship. We have two other series that use copywork for the purpose of handwriting - “Printing With Pictures” for manuscript writing, and “Pictures in Cursive” for cursive writing. A common question upon hearing this is “Why?”

The answer is simple. We want, in this series, the child to truly focus on the purpose for which this activity is intended - to study the mechanics of the language, without having to worry about whether they have formed every letter to exact perfection. When my children are doing traditional copywork, I do not correct their handwriting, as long as it is legible. I do not even insist that they use a certain style of writing (manuscript or cursive), but rather allow them to use that which is most comfortable for them.

When doing copywork, to obtain the maximum benefit, follow these steps:

1. Review the selection to be copied orally with your child, pausing at commas, more so at semicolons, and more finally at periods, etc.
2. Tell the child that they may look the selection to be copied over as many times as they wish, and make as many attempts at perfection as they need, but by the time they bring it to you to look at, all punctuation, capitalization, etc. must be perfect, or they will have to erase the ENTIRE lesson and copy it over again the same day.
3. Follow through! Step #2 will take some determination with which to follow through, but it is the **KEY** to making copywork effective! Once your child has to go through this process once or twice, it is very unlikely that they will slack on this again, as they know the consequence they must face. This forces them to truly pay attention to every little detail in the material being copied.

Though this sounds very simple, don’t make the mistake of thinking that copywork sounds so simple that it can’t possibly be as effective as you’ve heard!

Persevere, follow the steps above, doing one lesson per day, and you will likely find a great improvement in your child’s understanding of the mechanics of the English language, as he copies over material that will enrich him in other ways as well.

Thank you for respecting our labors, and honoring the copyright laws.

We pray these lessons will free you, as the parent, to focus on other things, knowing that you don’t have to go digging for a copywork lesson for your child each day - we’ve already done that for you. May you enjoy them!

In Christ’s Service,

Dr. Sandi Queen, ND, 2015

Lessons 1 Through 7 – How Firm a Foundation by John Ripon, 1787

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

In every condition, in sickness, in health;
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth;
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,
As thy days demand, shall thy strength ever be.

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Even down to old age all My people shall prove
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

Lessons 8 Through 10 – To God Be The Glory by Fanny Crosby, 1875

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.