

Simple Gifts

Shaker Elder Joseph Brackett, 1848, and later others added verses

'Tis the gift to be simple,
'Tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we want to be,
And when we find ourselves in a place just right,
We'll be in the valley of love and delight.

(CHORUS)

**When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and bend we will not be ashamed,
To turn, to turn, will be our delight,
And by turning, turning, we'll come 'round right.**

'Tis the gift to be gentle,
'Tis the gift to be fair,
'Tis the gift to wake and breathe the morning air,
To walk every day in the path that we choose,
'Tis a gift we pray we may never, never lose.

(REPEAT CHORUS)

'Tis the gift to be knowing,
'Tis the gift to be kind,
'Tis the gift to wait to hear another's mind,
That when we speak our feelings we might come out true,
'Tis the gift for me and the gift for you.

(REPEAT CHORUS)

'Tis the gift to be loving,
'Tis the best gift of all,
Like a warm spring rain bringing beauty when it falls,
And as we use this gift we may come to believe,
It is better to give than it is to receive.

(REPEAT CHORUS)