

How Firm a Foundation

Verse 3

“When thro’ fiery trials thy pathway 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.

Verse 4

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, tho’ all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake!”

about this hymn:

Words: John Rippon’s Selection of Hymns Music: Joseph Funk’s Genuine Church Music

Long ago, a man named John Rippon was thinking about this Bible truth, too. He wrote the words to a hymn called “How Firm a Foundation” We’re going to learn two verses from it.

God’s people know all God has an unbreakable plan to use all things in their lives for their good. He has planned that even their “fiery trials”—the hardest things that happen to them—that God will use them all to make them like Jesus. They do not have to like the fiery trials, but they can praise God for how He will use them for their good and His glory.

How Firm a Foundation, v.3

PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 41



Fiery, Flame, Consume
With palms facing in, wiggle fingers of both slightly curved open hands as you alternate moving the hands up and down several times. (Simulates flames of a fire)



Pathways
Flat hands, palms facing each other, move forward and progressively closer.



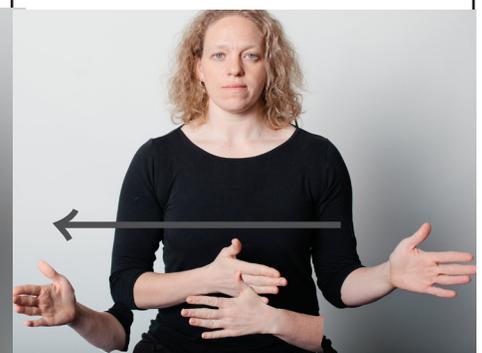
Grace
Touch lips with fingertips of both flat hands, then move hands forward until palms are facing upward.



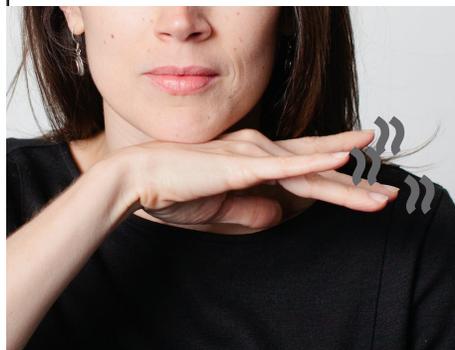
Supply
Both modified "Z" hands are held at chest, then brought down and forward, as if giving something to someone.



Hurt
Index fingers are thrust towards each other several times until almost touching.



Design
Both hands, palms facing each other, point left, then are brought across body and point right.



Dross
Right hand, palm facing down, is placed under chin, fingers pointing left. Wiggle fingers a few times.



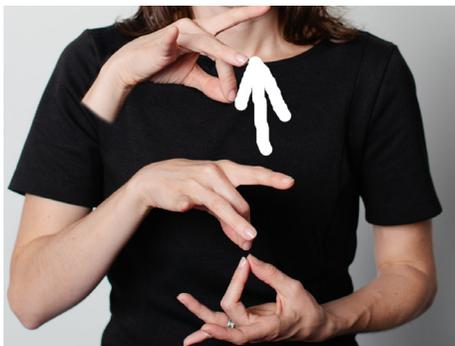
Gold
Right hand (middle finger) touches right ear, then is brought down to face front, wiggling fingers at the same time.



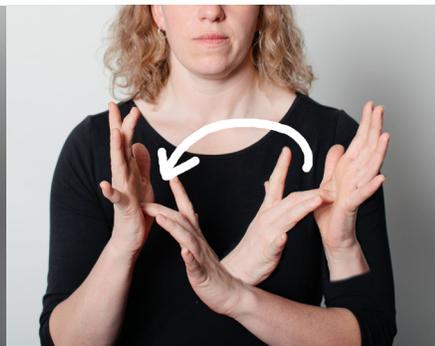
Refine
Pinky side of right "S" hand rests on top of thumb side of left "S" hand, palms facing in. Hands are pivoted in opposite directions several times, striking each other gently after each twist. Palm of downturned right hand slides down upturned left flat hand from wrist to fingertips.

How Firm a Foundation, v.4

PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 42



Soul
Touch the thumbs and index fingers of both "T" hands to each other, right hand above left, palms facing each other. Draw hands apart in an upward motion.



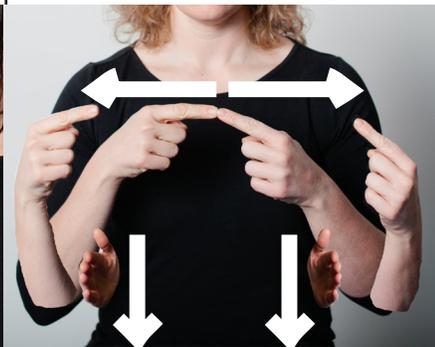
Jesus
Middle, bent finger of right "5" hand touches middle of left open palm, palms facing each other. Then middle, bent finger of left "5" hand touches middle of right open palm, palms facing each other.



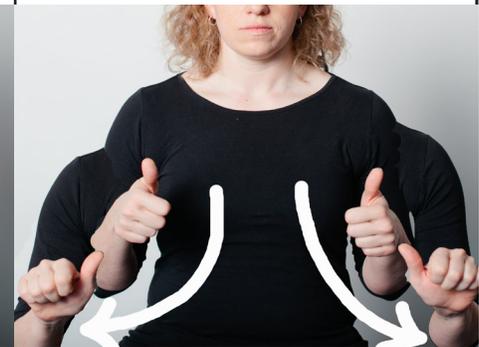
Leaned
Right index finger is crossed over the top of the left index finger, palms facing down. Both hands are moved down a short distance.



Not
Thumb and index fingers of downturned right "5" hand are placed on sides of downturned "S" hand. The right hand pivots back and forth while keeping light contact with left hand.



Foes
Index fingers point and touch in front of chest, palms facing body, then are pulled sharply out to each side. Then make flat hands, palms facing each other and move them down simultaneously.



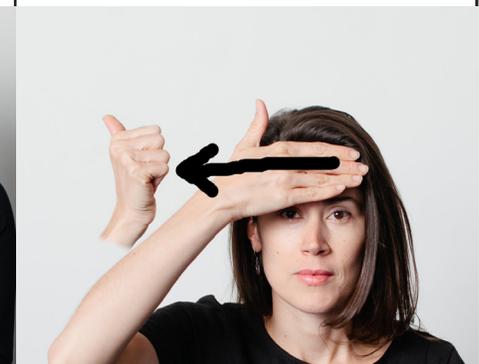
Endeavor
"A" hands, thumbs pointing up and palms towards body, are swung around and slightly down as if trying to move something out of the way.



Shake
Hold open hands in front of body, palms facing each other. Both hands are moved in and out, while wiggling fingers back and forth at the same time.



Never
Open, right hand, palm facing forward and fingers together, makes a short semi-circle out to the right, then moves straight down, similar to the shape of a question mark.



Forsake
Right open hand, palm on head and fingers pointed left, is wiped across forehead from left to right. End with right "A" hand near right temple.

For a Little While

For a little while you may have suffered,
Grief in all kinds of trials.

These have come that your faith,
May be proved genuine, be proved genuine.

Refrain:

Faith! Faith!

Which is of greater worth than gold,
Which perishes though refined by fire.

Faith! Faith!

Which is of greater worth than gold,
Which perishes though refined by fire.

For a little while you may have had suffered,
Grief in all kinds of trials.

These have come that your faith,
May result in praise, glory and honor. *Refrain*

First Peter One, six through seven.

about this Bible verse:

Words: adapted from 1 Peter 1:6-7 NIV 1984 Music: Constance Dever ©2011

God's people suffer, but only according to God's perfectly wise and good plan. He will only use their sufferings for His glory and their good. What kind of good? He will use their sufferings to grow their faith in Him, making it stronger, truer, and deeper. That's what this verse calls proving faith genuine. What other kind of glory? God has planned for all their sufferings to result in praise, glory and honor. That's because God is the one who perfectly planned their sufferings and gave them the strength to endure them. We may think gold and riches are worth a lot in this world--and they are because we can get many things with them. But, how God's people will thank God and praise Him for all the great things He did through their sufferings! For through them, God will give them something worth far more than all the gold in the world could get them.

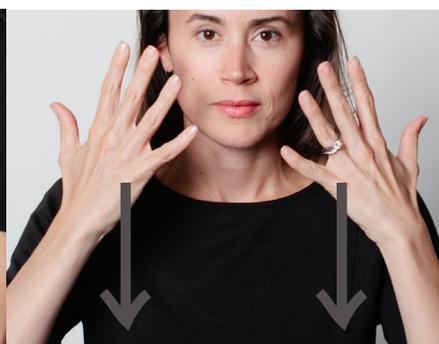
For a Little While: 1 Peter 1:6-7, NIV 1984

PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 43



Little While

Side of right index finger moves along side of left index finger of left "H" hand, palm facing right.



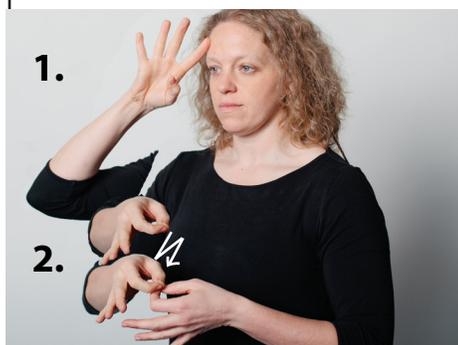
Grief

"5" hands, slightly curved are held in front of the face then simultaneously moved down until the fingertips are level with the mouth, as mouth makes a sad expression.



Trials

Thumb of right "A" hand is pivoted back and forth on chin.



Faith

Right index finger touches forehead. Then, right "F" hand, palm facing in, hits left "F" hand, palm facing in, in a down-up-down motion, ending with right thumb- index finger resting on left thumb-index finger.



Genuine

Place the right index finger, palm facing left, on lower lip. Move the finger up and then out, making an arc.



Gold

Right hand (middle finger) touches right ear, then is brought down to face front, wiggling fingers at the same time.



Refined

Pinky side of right "S" hand rests on top of thumb side of left "S" hand, palms facing in. Hands are pivoted in opposite directions several times, striking each other gently after each twist. Palm of downturned right hand slides down upturned left flat hand from wrist to fingertips.



Praise

Clap the right hand on top of the left hand several times.



Honor

Both "H" hands start out from the body with palms facing each other and left hand in front of right hand. Both hands simultaneously make an upward arc and finish in same position but directly in front of the body.

If God Is For Us

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He did not spare His own Son,

But gave Him up for us all.

How will He not also with Him,

Graciously give us all things?

How will He not also with Him,

Graciously give us all things?

Who shall separate us, from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation or distress?

Persecution, famine, nakedness?

No, in all these things,

We are more than conquerors,

Through Him who love us.

Neither life nor death, nor anything else,

Will separate us from God's love in Christ.

Romans Eight, thirty-one and two, thirty-five,

seven through nine.

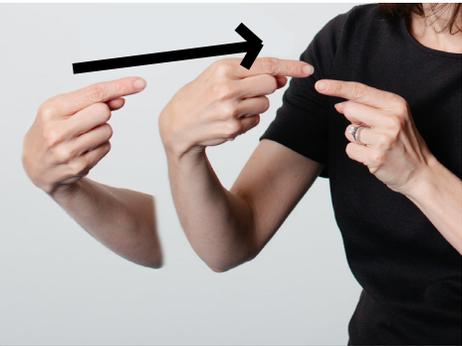
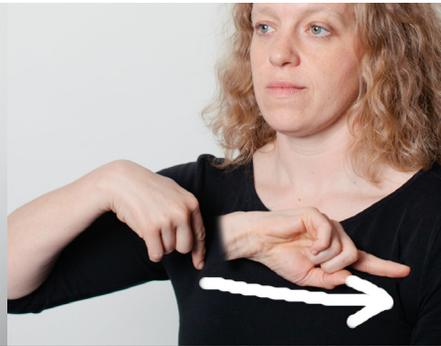
about this Bible verse:

Words: adapted from Romans 8:31,32,35,37-39 ESV Music: Constance Dever ©2015

God's people may suffer many different things, but never will they be separated from God and His love for them in Christ. No. Nothing will separate them from Him and His love, not even the worst things they can imagine. And what does this mean for them as they suffer? It means that they will always have what they need to faithfully endure whatever they face. With God with them always, they know that He will always provide what they need. And one day, they will go to be with their dear God forever, closer to Him than ever in this life. And never having to face any suffering again. Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus, come!

If God Is For Us: Romans 8:31-39 ESV

PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 44



God

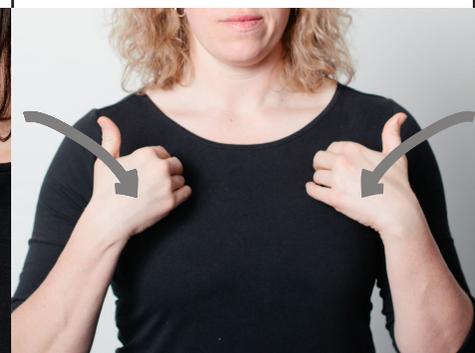
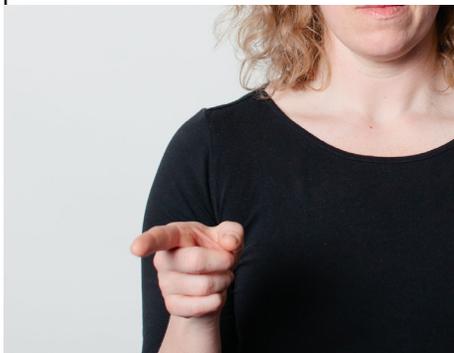
Right open hand, palm facing left, is held up above head level then brought down and back in a slight arc, ending with a "B" hand at the upper chest level.

Us

Right index finger touches right shoulder, then moves left touch left shoulder.

Against

Right "G" hand, index finger pointing left, is brought close to left "G" hand, index finger pointing right, without touching.



He

Point right index finger forward and up (for God).

Not

Thumb and index fingers of downturned right "5" hand are placed on sides of downturned "5" hand. The right hand pivots back and forth while keeping light contact with left hand.

Own

Fingertips of both bend hands are placed on chest.



Gave Up

Both "A" hands are held in front of body, palms facing down. Bring both hands up simultaneously while forming open hands, palms facing forward.

Us All

Touch mouth with index finger of right W hand a couple times (sign for water); Then move both hands horizontally, with fingers & thumb spread apart.. Move hands downwards as you wiggle your fingers in short stages.

Graciously

Touch lips with fingertips of both flat hands, then move hands forward until palms are facing upward.

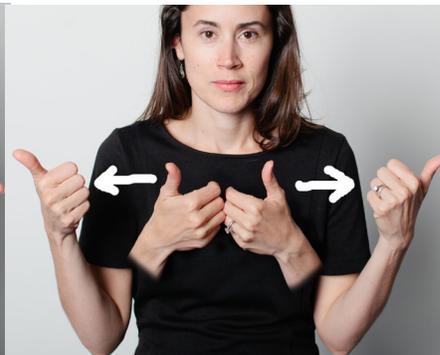
If God Be For Us: Romans 8:31-32,35,37-39, continued

PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 44



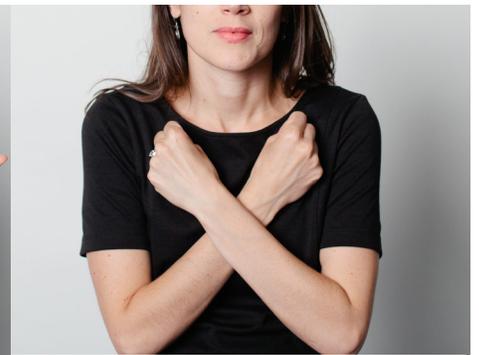
Things

Both flat hands, palms facing up, are lowered in front of chest, then moved slightly out to each side.



Separate

Both "A" hands touch in front of body at the knuckles, then are thrust apart.



Love

Fists are crossed on chest, palms facing body.



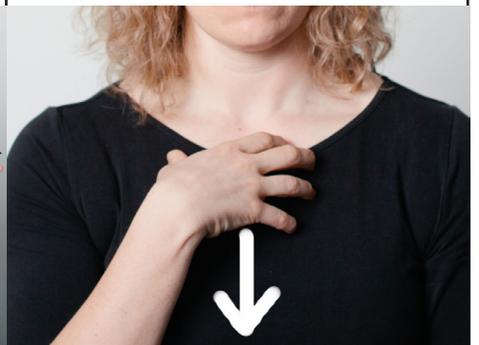
Christ

Right "C" hand is placed at right shoulder then moved down across chest, ending at right hip.



Tribulation, Distress

"5" hands, palms facing inward and middle fingers bend forward, alternate moving towards and away from chest several times.



Famine

Fingertips of right "C" hand, palm facing body, is placed on upper mid chest and moved down a short distance.



Conquerors

Right "S" hand is placed across left "S" hand then brought over and down a bit.



Death

Hold both flat hands in front of body with fingertips pointing forward, right flat hand palm up and left flat hand palm down. Flip both over towards the left until the right palm is face down and the left palm is face up.



Anything Else

Thumb of right "A" hand leads in tracing an s-shaped curve in front of the body. Then, open up the right hand, palm facing up and drop it slightly a few times as it moves to the right.

Count It All Joy

Count it all joy, all joy,
All joy, my brothers,
Count it all joy, all joy,
All joy, my brothers,
When you meet with trials of various kinds,
When you meet with trials of various kinds,
for the testing of your faith,
produces steadfastness.

And let steadfastness have its full effect,
That you may be perfect and complete,
lacking in nothing.

Count it all joy, all joy,
All joy, my brothers,
Count it all joy, all joy,
All joy, my brothers,
When you meet with trials of various kinds,

about this Bible verse:

Words: adapted from James 1:2-4, ESV Music: Constance Dever ©2015

No one likes to suffer. God's people are no different from anyone else in that. They look forward to the day when their suffering will all be over. But, they are able to take joy in their sufferings. They know that God has carefully planned what suffering they will endure. They know He has planned to use every single bit of it to strengthen their faith and make it steadfast and complete. This is great comfort to them as they suffer. God is up to their good in every trial.

Count It All Joy: James 1:2-4, ESV

PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 45



Count

Touch forehead with right index finger, then bring both "F" hands down with palms facing each other.



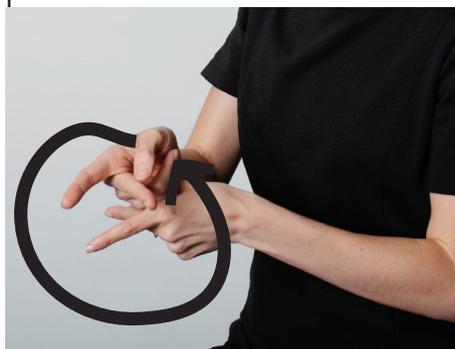
Joy

Both flat hands are moved in a forward circular motion with palms brushing chest on the inward portion of the circle.



Trials

Thumb of right "A" hand is pivoted back and forth on chin.



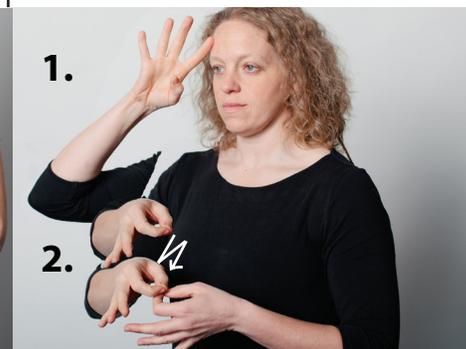
Kinds

Both "K" hands point forward, palms facing each other. Right "K" hand makes forward circle around left "K" hand.



Testing

Index finger of curved right hand taps near left elbow as it is held closely to it



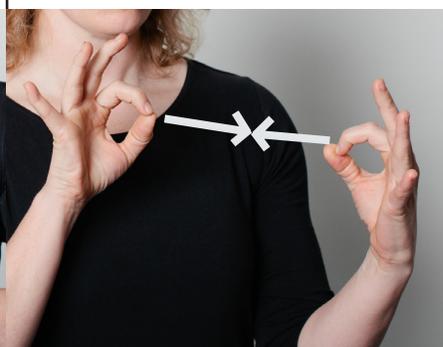
Faith

Right index finger touches forehead. Then, right "F" hand, palm facing in, hits left "F" hand, palm facing in, in a down-up-down motion, ending with right thumb-index finger resting on left thumb-index finger.



Steadfastness

Pinky side of right "A" hand, thumb pointing up, is brought down firmly onto back of downturned left "S" hand.



Perfect

Right and left hands are held in front of body, with index finger and thumb joined and palms facing each other. Hands are brought together until index finger-thumbs touch.



Lacking

Extended index finger of right hand, palm facing forward, is struck against left middle finger and continues a bit further down.

How Firm a Foundation, vs.3-4

F B^b F C F B^b F Dm

1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His
 2. "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis-mayed, For I am thy God, and will
 3. "When thro' fiery trials thy path-way shall lie, My grace, all su - fi - cient shall
 4. "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose I will not, I will not de -

7 F C F Dm F

ex - cel - lent Word! What more can He say than to you He hath
 still give thee aid; I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to
 be thy sup - ply; The flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de -
 sert to his foes; That soul, tho' all hell should en - deav - or to

12 C F B^b F Dm F C F

said, To you who for re - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 stand, Up - held by My right - eous om - ni - po - tent hand.
 sign Thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 shake, I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

Words: John Rippon's Selection of Hymns Music: Joseph Funk's Genuine Church Music

For a Little While

G C D G

For a lit - tle while you may have suf fered grief in all kinds of trials. These have come that your

6 D G C G

faith may be proved gen-u-ine, be proved gen-u - ine. Faith! Faith!which is of great-er worth than gold which

11 C D G G C G D

per-ish-es though re-fined by fire. Faith! Faith!which is of great-er worth than gold which per-ish-es though re-

16 C G C D

fined by fire. For a lit - tle while you may have suf fered grief in all kinds of trials.

21 G D G G

These have come that your faith may re-sult in praise, glo - ry and hon - or. Faith! Faith!which is of

26 C G C D G

great-er worth than gold which per - ish - es though re - fined by fire.. Faith! Faith! which is of

30 C G D

great - er worth than gold which per - ish - es, though re -

32 C G D G D G

fined by fire. First Pet - er One, six through se - ven.

If God Is for Us

G C Bm Em C

If God is for us, who can be a gainst_ us?_ He did not spare His own_

5 G Em C G Em7 C G

Son, but gave Him up_ for us all. How will He not al-so with Him,

10 Em C G Em7 C G Em C

gra-cious-ly give us all things? How will He not al-so with Him, gra-cious-ly give us all

15 G G C Bm

things? Who shall se-pa-rate us, from the love of Christ?_ Shall tri-bu

20 Em C G Em C G Em7

la - tion or dis-tress? Per-se - cu-tion, fa-mine, na-ked ness? No, in all these things we are

25 C G Em C G Em7

more than con-quer-ors, through Him who loved us. Nei-ther life nor_ death nor

29 C G Em G D C D G

an - y - thing else, will se - pa - rate us from God's love in Christ.

32 D C Em C D(sus4) D G

Ro-mans Eight, thir-ty-one and two, thir-ty - five, sev-en through nine.

Words: adapted from Romans 8:31,32,35,37-39 ESV Music: Constance Dever ©2015

Count It All Joy

B♭maj7 C Dm7 B♭ F F(add4)/B♭ B♭maj7 C B♭maj7 C Dm7

Count it all joy, all joy, all joy, my bro-thers, Count it all joy, all joy,

7 B♭ F C(sus4) C B♭maj7 B♭ Am7 B♭maj7 B♭

all joy, my bro thers, When you meet trials of va-ri-ous kinds, when you meet trials of

12 Am7 B♭maj7 Fmaj7/A B♭(sus2) C Dm B♭ F

va-ri-ous kinds, for you know that the tes-ting of your faith pro-duces stead-fast-ness.

17 Dm Am B♭ Dm C(sus4) C Dm Am B♭ Dm

And let stead-fast-ness have its full ef-fect. that you may be per-fect and com

24 C(sus4) C

lete, lack-ing in no-thing. Count it James

28 B♭maj7 Am7 B♭

Chap-ter One, ver-ses two through four.

Words: adapted from James 1:2-4 ESV Music: Constance Dever ©2015