

GUY N. WOODS and JUST A LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS

"In the light of what Christ said in John 16:23,24, would it be wrong to sing songs such as 'Tell It To Jesus,' 'My Jesus As Thou Wilt,' and 'Just a Little Talk With Jesus,' and others which seem to advocate making our requests made known to Christ instead of the Father?"

No. It is a misinterpretation of John 16:23, 24 to draw from it the conclusion that Jesus there forbade any address to him. It is of course very true that our prayers are to be addressed to the Father "in the name" of Christ, i.e., by his authority but the words of the foregoing passage were not intended to prohibit any address to him. It was the Lord's design, in this instance, to indicate to his followers their relation to him and to the Father when he was no longer with them. He said in effect this: "You shall not, as you presently do, bring your questions to me; henceforth, you shall make your needs known to the Father by my authority and he will hear and answer." **For instances of such direct address to Christ as is involved in these songs, see Acts 7:60 and 9:6. There are many other examples of this in the New Testament. (Emp. Mine, w.d.) (Questions And Answers, Vol. II, pg.39)**