

# Lord I Need You

Steve Teng

The extent of our need for God far exceeds our awareness of our need for Him. In our approach, we tend to minimize our need for God and relate to Him like an accessory—an interesting set of ideas to get proficient in or a friend of whom we periodically ask a favor. But our God is no accessory, and our need for Him is less like the finish on a device and more like that device's need for an ongoing source of power, unobvious but vital. “Lord I Need You” is a confessional prayer in response to these truths.

## **We need God in every way.**

*“Without You I fall apart ...”*

We need God. We need Him for forgiveness of sin, deliverance from the enemy, the gift of righteousness, and eternal life. But our need for God extends beyond that and is eternal in scope and tangible in every aspect of reality. We need Him in the entirety of our beings—for our purpose, joy, and peace. We need Him in our relationships and in our work. We need Him internally and externally. We need Him in the significant and the mundane. We need Him “every hour” and in every way. After all, “... he is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:17).

Life was always designed to consist of need for God. Even if original sin and the fall never occurred, we would still need Him.

## **To experience God is to want Him more.**

One consequence of being in God's presence is a desire for more of Him. The chorus of “Lord I Need You” repeats this refrain to reinforce this truth: *“Lord, I need you, oh, I need You / Every hour I need You ... Oh God, how I need You.”* We receive Him when we cry out for Him, and when we experience Him, we want more of Him. Unlike the fleeting pleasures of this world which disappoint over time, time in the presence of God increases our capacity to enjoy Him in ever richer ways, which this song frames as freedom. When we see the one our souls were made for, we recognize the unending, exponential potential for pleasure in His presence (Psalm 16:11).

## **Fullness of life is found in God.**

To live is to ache with an appetite for something that nothing in this life—apart from God—can satisfy. The human experience is rife with longings for things like joy, pleasure, peace, freedom, and love. Verse two unpacks this by pointing out how we can be sure that God's grace is behind every need truly fulfilled



and that His unhindered presence brings with it the freedom we were created for (2 Corinthians 3:17):  
*“Where sin runs deep Your grace is more / Where grace is found is where You are / Where You are,  
Lord, I am free / Holiness is Christ in me”!*

In the face of our prideful understatement of our need for God, He extends still more grace, proving Himself to be our *“hope and stay.”* Though we have been conditioned to prove ourselves worthy of love, God instead extends it through our admission of weakness in confession, making Him worthy of our songs.