

About...

Kneel me down

...how and why it was written

I wrote this song out of a conscious desire to write a simple love song to Jesus.

I had started writing more regularly and seriously in order to ensure we had a wide and true theological spread of songs at the church I was leading worship at in St Albans. My focus had been unity, voicing in song various words the church had been given, and outward focussed songs of justice and intercession.

This was a simple back to basics type of song which I wrote in a personal time, loved worshipping with, and started to use in congregational song.

Originally the song was just two verses and two choruses, but I wrote the third verse more recently when I was using it in one of my daily worship times. I think in a way it was inevitable – as so much of my worship is trying to explore how to connect intimacy with God, with a desire to move beyond just a personal relationship, into one which also longs for transformation in the world.

Subconsciously too I think I was following in the footsteps of one of my all time favourite worship songs – David Ruis' *Lily of the valley*, which moves naturally from personal adoration of Jesus right through to recognition of him as 'desire of the nations'.

...how, where and when it could be used

I have led this song in it's original two verse version quite a lot in sung worship and found it flexible and useful in a lot of different contexts. It's an intimate, simple worship song that works well in both first person and plural (eg. kneel us down, at your feet) depending on the context.

...its place on the journey to where world and worship meet

Like so many of the songs we choose to sing, or write, *Kneel me down* is seeking to be simultaneously non-compromising about passionate, personal devotion, and urgent, outward-focussed interceding and living. Jesus is both the song of our hearts and the hope of the nations – the more we experience him in one context, the more his life spills out into our view and experience of the other.

We must get back to a place where our Christology recognises the awesome and almost unimaginably multi-dimensionality of our God. As a church, let's not lose the wonderful lessons we have learnt about pursuing intimacy with him... but let us recognise he is glorious, merciful, mighty, righteous, and active in our world – as well as being our personal, beautiful, saviour.