

### The Mother's Goodbye

Words: Fanny Crosby, 1878. Music: Howard Doane.

Sit down by the side of your mother, my boy,  
You have only a moment, I know;  
But you'll stay till I give you my parting advice,  
'Tis all that I have to bestow.  
You leave us to seek for employment, my boy,  
By the world you have yet to be tried;  
But in all the temptations and struggles you meet,  
May your heart in the Savior confide.

#### Refrain

Hold fast to the right,  
Hold fast to the right,  
Wherever your footsteps may roam;  
O forsake not the way of salvation, my boy,  
That you learned from your mother at home.

You'll find in your satchel a Bible, my boy,  
'Tis the book of all others the best;  
It will teach you to live, it will help you to die,  
And lead to the gates of the blest.  
I gave you to God, in your cradle, my boy,  
I have taught you the best that I knew;  
And as long as His mercy permits me to live,  
I shall never cease praying for you.

#### Refrain

Your father is coming to bid you goodbye,  
O how lonely and sad we shall be;  
But when far from the scenes of your childhood and youth,  
You'll think of your father and me.  
I want you to feel every word I have said,  
For it came from the depths of my love;  
And, my boy, if we never behold you on earth,  
Will you promise to meet us above?

#### Refrain