

Except The Lord Conduct The Plan  
by Charles Wesley

1 EXCEPT the Lord conduct the plan,  
The best concerted schemes are vain,  
And never can succeed;  
We spend our wretched strength for nought:  
But if our works in thee be wrought,  
They shall be blest indeed.

2 Lord, if thou didst thyself inspire  
Our souls with this intense desire  
Thy goodness to proclaim,  
Thy glory if we now intend,  
O let our deed begin and end  
Complete in Jesu's name!

3 In Jesu's name, behold, we meet,  
Far from an evil world retreat,  
And all its frantic ways;  
One only thing resolved to know,  
And square our useful lives below  
By reason and by grace.

4 Not in the tombs we pine to dwell,  
Not in the dark monastic cell,  
By vows and grates confined;  
Freely to all ourselves we give,  
Constrained by Jesu's love to live  
The servants of mankind.

5 Now, Jesus, now thy love impart,  
To govern each devoted heart,  
And fit us for thy will:  
Deep founded in the truth of grace,  
Build up thy rising church, and place  
The city on the hill.

6 O let our faith and love abound!  
O let our lives to all around  
With purest lustre shine!  
That all around our works may see,  
And give the glory, Lord, to thee,  
The heavenly light divine.