

I WANNA GO BACK - DAVID DUNN



His 2015 full-length debut was well received and even spawned a Top 20 radio hit with "Today Is Beautiful." Dunn originally began performing his own songs during his college years. He graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in engineering and then spent a transformative 13 months in Africa doing mission work. It wasn't until he returned to the States that he started pursuing music full-time. Dunn now calls Nashville home and has had the opportunity to write with some of the Christian community's finest songwriters, many of whom he collaborated with on *Yellow Balloons*, a synth-soaked pop album boasting heavy beats and honest, heartfelt lyrics.

If you see a yellow balloon floating in the sky, say a prayer. Somewhere a family is mourning the loss of a loved one. A yellow balloon has come to symbolize hope effortlessly drifting into the expansive blue abyss above. In need of hope, a year-and-a-half ago,

singer/songwriter David Dunn and his family released balloons the color of sunshine into the sky at the memorial service for his 2-year-old niece. It was a blow that hit without warning and a cloud that hangs over the singer's head to this day.

For the Texas-native, his niece's passing caused an explosion in the midst of his quiet world. "A 2-year-old is just coming into their personality. She had really started knowing and loving her people, just started talking, and she knew she loved me," he offers. "So it's hard to put any kind of good spin on it, or even when it comes to God, it's really difficult to do anything but get mad at Him."

In contrast to the dark, deeply emotional overtones of the title cut, sunny, nostalgic lead single "I Wanna Go Back" reveals a resolute longing for childlike faith. "We almost always talk about little kids in degrading terms. 'Stop acting like a kid. Act like an adult.' We say things like that all the time. I do it all the time," Dunn confesses. "If you look in the Bible, the majority of the time Jesus speaks about kids, it's almost always in positive terms. He's encouraging people to be more like kids, not less like them--especially when it comes to faith.

"When I was a kid, the only things that mattered were that Jesus was--He existed--and that He loved me. The rest of it didn't matter," he continues. "'I Wanna Go Back' was very much a wishing to go back to the time where I hadn't gotten so smart that I became stupid."

Information from [:http://www.newreleasetoday.com/artistdetail.php?artist_id=4717](http://www.newreleasetoday.com/artistdetail.php?artist_id=4717)

LYRICS

When I was a kid, I was sure I could run across the ocean,
That I was gonna be an astronaut
It was You, and it was me,
I had everything I needed,
Faith could even move a mountaintop
And then I grew up, and then I got older,
And my life got tough, and we grew apart

Oooh, I wanna go back to Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me, for the Bible tells me so
I wanna go back to this little light
Gonna let it shine, gonna let it shine
I wanna go back

When I was a kid, I didn't care to keep up with the Joneses,
I was just happy that they lived next door
It was You, and it was me,
I had everything I needed,
My hands were big enough to hold the world
And then I grew up, and then I got older,
And my life got tough, and we grew apart!

(Oooh) I wanna go back to Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me, for the Bible tells me so
I wanna go back to this little light

Gonna let it shine, gonna let it shine
I wanna go back
(Wanna go, wanna go, wanna go back,
Wanna go, wanna go, wanna go back,
Wanna go, wanna go, wanna go back)

Back to yes, Jesus loves me,
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
I wanna go back

I wanna go back to Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me, for the Bible tells me so
I wanna go back to this little light
Gonna let it shine, gonna let it shine
I wanna go...

I wanna go back to Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me, for the Bible tells me so
I wanna go back to this little light
Gonna let it shine, gonna let it shine
I wanna go back
(Wanna go, wanna go, wanna go back,
Wanna go, wanna go, wanna go back,
Wanna go, wanna go, wanna go back)
I wanna go back

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Matthew 18:1-4, New International Version (NIV)

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

² He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

1. What would you say the song is about?
2. For those of you who were here last week, what about this song is different?
3. How can two Bible passages that seem to say different things still both be true?
4. Read Matthew 18:1. What is the context of today’s passage?
5. How would you answer that question? Why?
6. Who does Jesus bring forward as an example in verse 2? Why might that be shocking?
7. Read verse 3. What does He mean that we must “change and become like little children”? What could he be talking about?
8. Read verse 4. What might the phrase “lowly position of this child” mean? Why does Jesus want that for His disciples?
9. What parts about acting like a child does the song highlight? Which of those might correlate with what Jesus is talking about?