Side Notes: This song was originally published in 1873 and is one of the best known works of Fanny J. Crosby. Her friend Phoebe Palmer Knapp had composed the tune and Fanny said, "It seemed to me one of the sweetest hymns I had heard in a long time." She says she felt while bringing the words and tones together that the air and the hymn were intended for each other.

God calls each of us to do certain things in our lives. Some people call this promptings or feelings that push us down new paths that leads to growth opportunities. We often don't feel qualified when that call arrives. The trick to finding true joy is to be willing to step forward and recognize the promptings we receive and be humble enough and brave enough to trust that God will qualify and teach us through ways we likely won't understand at the time, trusting He will lead us by the hand so we reach our potential.

I never thought I would write a single hymn arrangement book, let alone nearly 20 books. I hope the melodies that I have been able to arrange and songs I've written over the years will be something that will benefit many people. When I started writing music, I didn't think I was good enough. I didn't think anyone would have any interest in my "simple" arrangements I wrote for myself so I wouldn't be nervous to play a song in church.

Thankfully, because I've continued to work at writing music for years, it has become easier, but still continues to be more work and more time than most people are willing to commit to do. I hope the sacrifices I've made can be an example and inspiration to my family and anyone who finds this music. I'm grateful for the experiences and path I've walked and hope that the music I've shared will bless, motivate, comfort and inspire others.

## Blessed Assurance



