

# The family of man

A song for our times - together we can make a difference.

Words and music by Karl Dallas.

This song from 'Come and Praise' BBC radio for schools, was very popular in assemblies all the years I taught and always sung with much gusto.

The second verse resonates personally as my larger family is spread around the world including Perth and Paris! I have very gently tweaked some of the less contemporary words and replaced them with more inclusive language; deleting 'coolie' and culling 'men'! Though the 'man' of the title of course refers to 'mankind'. I love 'The miner in the Rhondda' / but if you wish to be more up to date sing 'The miner in Wyoming' as most coal is produced there. Apparently the songwriter sings it differently each time so I would imagine this version is an acceptable one! See discussion at: [https://www.mumsnet.com/Talk/philosophy\\_religion\\_spirituality/676786-Song-hymn-The-Family-of-Man-I-belong-to-a](https://www.mumsnet.com/Talk/philosophy_religion_spirituality/676786-Song-hymn-The-Family-of-Man-I-belong-to-a)



Musical score for the song "The family of man". The score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

Chord symbols: G, C, Am, D7, B7, Em, A7, D, G, G7, C, A, D, D7, G, D7, G, C, Am, D7, B7, Em, A7, D7, G, C, G, D7, G, C, G.

Lyrics:  
I be - long to a fam - 'ly, the big - gest on earth; Ten thous - and ev - 'ry day are  
com - ing to birth. Our name is - n't Dav - is, or Groves, or Jones, It's the name ev - 'ry  
one can be glad we own: It's the fam - 'ly of man, keeps grow - ing. The fam - 'ly of  
man, keeps sow - ing The seeds of a new life ev - 'ry day.

I belong to a family, the biggest on the earth;  
Ten thousand every day are coming to birth.  
Our name isn't Davis, or Groves, or Jones,  
It's a name everyone can be glad we own:

Chorus:

It's the family of man, keeps growing,  
The family of man, keeps sowing  
The seeds of a new life every day.

I've got a sister in Perth, a brother in Paris,  
The whole wide world is mum and dad to me.  
Wherever you go you will find my kin,  
Whatever the creed or colour of skin:

The miner in the Rhondda, the builder in Beijing,  
Those across the ocean who plough, reap and spin,  
They've got a life and others to share it,  
So let's bridge the oceans and declare it:

Now some people say the world is a terrible place,  
But it's just as good or bad as the human race;  
Dirt and misery or health and joy,  
We can build or we can destroy: