

5 - Guitar Worship - 5

Lesson 5 – Each song has its own beat and rhythm, how does that affect strumming?

- **4 Beats in a measure:** The song ‘I surrender all’ can be organized in little sections of 4 beats called **measures**. The first beat is the heavier beat, see below figure. Each measure is designated by vertical lines.

We can write it out like this with each word under its beat:

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
All	to	You	Je	I		surren	der	all	to	You	I	free	ly	give.	

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
I		will	e	love		and	trust	in	Your	Pre	sence	dai	ly	live	

- **All beats are regular and have the same duration. Perpetual!**
The words do not always fall together with the beats. Sometimes you have two words in a beat and sometimes one word lasts a couple of beats. This flexibility in duration of the words, you call **rhythm**.
Notice that in the first measure you see the words ‘to you’, both fall within the second beat. And in the fourth measure the word ‘give’ lasts the third and fourth beat. That is Rhythm.

- **Practice: Regularly clap:** 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 keep going and don’t stop. While clapping the beat, start humming the song. Keep clapping regularly. Practice this also on other songs.

Notice that the word at the beginning of each measure falls together with your heavy clap (first beat).

- **3 Beats in a measure:** In the two songs you will learn in this lesson 5 there are three beats in a measure with the heavier beat on the first count.

Like this: | 1 2 3 | 1 2 3 | 1 2 3 |

- For the song ‘there is a name’ on the next page it looks as follows:

There	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	
is		a		Name	I		love	to		hear	I		love	to		sing	its		worth-----	-----	it				

- Try again to clap the regular beat while you are humming the song.
Notice that in this song the first word in every measure lasts two beats.
- **Tip:** Try strumming only on the first and the second beat and not on the third.
- **Tip:** Try strumming only on the first and the third beat. And only on the third beat, this gives a certain swing to your song.
- The song ‘Jesus keep me in Your Blood’ looks as follows:

1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Je		sus	keep		me	in		Your	Blood		

- Again, clap the beat while humming the song before you start playing it.
- It is important to know if the song is written for **three beats** or **four beats** in a measure because it affects your strumming and it has a different feel to it.
- **Tip: Remember that the first beat in every measure is the heavy moment in the measure.** That feels natural and it is the ongoing **regular** movement in your song.

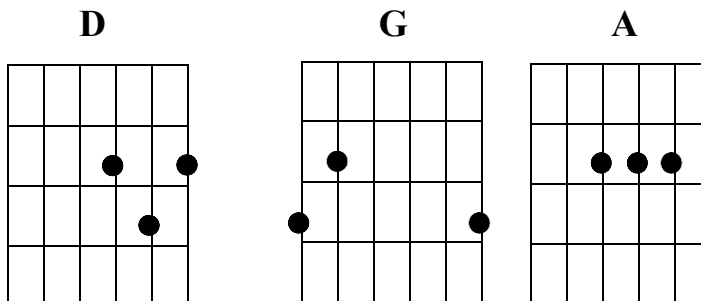
THE KEY OF D

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THE KEY OF D

JESUS KEEP ME IN YOUR BLOOD

D **G** **D** **A**
 Jesus Keep me in Your Blood, yes this Precious Fountain
D **G** **D** **A** **D**
 Free to all, a Healing Stream, Flows from Calvary's mountain
 D **G** **D** **A**
 In Your Blood in Your Blood, be Your Glory ever
 D **G** **D** **A** **D**
 Now my raptured soul has found, rest in Your Presence
D **G** **D** **A**
 In Your Blood that I received, Your Love and Mercy Found me
D **G** **D** **A** **D**
 There the Bright and Morning Star, Shed its Beams around me
 D
 In Your Blood
D **G** **D** **A**
 In Your Blood o Lamb of God, All Redeeming Power
D **G** **D** **A** **D**
 There I find the Path of Life, with its Freedom over me
 D
 In Your Blood
D **G** **D** **A**
 In Your Blood I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever
D **G** **D** **A** **D**
 Till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river
 D
 In Your Blood



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Practice 1:

Clap the regular beat 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 .

Each new measure starts on the first count and the first count is the recurring heavy moment.

Practice 2:

Now clap regularly while singing the song 'There is a Name I love to hear'.

Take a pencil and put a little line underneath the beginning of each measure on the heavy moment in the two songs you just learned like this.....

There is a Name I love to hear, I love to sing its wo--oorth

It sounds like music in my ears, the only real Name on ea—earth

Every line represents where the first count and the heavy moment falls.

Now you finish the whole song as you are clapping regularly and singing...

Practice 3:

Do the same thing with the next song like this.....

Always clap the beat while singing the song first when you do this.

Jesus Keep me in Your Blood, yes this Precious Fountain

Free to all, a Healing Stream, Flows from Calvary's mountain

Practice 4:

Now do the same with other songs you learned in the previous lessons.

- First, get the feel for every heavy moment, tempo, rhythm and movement for the song by clapping the beat and singing the song.
- Second, you determine if a song is in threes or in fourths by clapping the beat and singing the song.
Remember that the beats (your claps) are regular and they go on continuously.

Tip: Knowing the heavy moment and the movement of the song sets the framework for the way you strum.

Especially when you have difficulty with a certain song, it is a great help to first establish the beat, the tempo and the heavy moments in the song and to know if the song is in threes or fourths.

As long as you keep the beat and the heavy moments intact, you are absolutely free to strum different strums within the song, representing the way you want the song to sound at different moments.