

**The Word of Life (In a Byre Near Bethlehem)**

Words: John L. Bell, 1987

Music: Wild Mountain Thyme, arr. Zac Hicks, 2011

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F Bb F  
In a byre near Bethlehem  
Bb F  
Passed by many a wandering stranger  
Bb Am Dm  
The most precious Word of Life  
Gm Bb  
Was heard gurgling in a manger  
F Bb F  
For the good of us all

By the Galilean Lake  
Where the people flocked for teaching  
The most precious Word of Life  
Fed their mouths as well as preaching  
For the good of us all

Bb F  
*And He's here when we call Him*  
Bb Am Dm  
*Bringing health, love, and laughter*  
Gm Bb  
*To life now and ever after*  
F Bb F  
*For the good of us all*

Quiet was Gethsemane  
Camouflaging priest and soldier  
The most precious Word of Life  
Took the world's weight on His shoulder  
For the good of us all

On the hill of Calvary  
Place to end all hope of living

The most precious Word of Life  
Breathed His last and died, forgiving  
For the good of us all

In a garden, just at dawn  
Near the grave of human violence  
The most precious Word of Life  
Cleared His throat and ended silence  
For the good of us all