Can We Love?

Tom Booth

Choral arrangement by Rick Modlin

INTRO (e = ca. 156)

Am C G Dm7 Am C G

Can we love?

Can we lay down our lives?

Can we wear ______

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

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*Performance suggestion: Altos sing this counter-melody for the last one of the two refrains instead of the regular Alto line. Alternatively, it may be sung by a high Tenor voice.
Can We Love?

Can we drink his crown of thorns? Can we drink his cup?

We must lay down our lives!

1. It’s lives!
2. It’s lives!
VERSES 1, 2

S/A unis.

1. It's more than raising our hands, it's more than singing this
2. It's more than shouting God's name, it's more than singing his

1. song. It's saying "yes" to the Giver of
2. praise. It's bringing forgiveness to injury's

1. life, it's righting the ways that are wrong!
2. wound, and hope to those imprisoned by shame.

Can We Love?

Edition #30101711
VERSE 3

3. Loving the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and soul,

unis.

F   G   C         F   G   Am
3. loving our neighbor as ourselves, the

F E7 Am Am/G D

3. kingdom of love we will know!

Dm7 E7 Eaug E7

VERSE 4

4. feet secure on the ground and hearts humbled by love we

F G C F G Am
4. stand before God's anointed one and ask the question, and ask the question:

D.S.

4. We must lay down, we must lay down, we must lay down our

CODA

We must lay down, we must lay down, we must lay down our

Can We Love?
Can We Love?

lives!

Am add9 C G Dm7 F E7 Am
Composer Notes

My co-producer and friend, Jeff Thomas, calls Can We Love? my 'worship protest song.' I find that to be funny, and in some ways, true. With Can We Love? I am challenging myself, and others, to go beyond "raising our hands" and "shouting God's name" to live a life of love and service to God, and others. Praise is supposed to lead to worship, and worship is about surrender. A surrendered life is about giving oneself completely to God, and to the service of others as well. This is the idea behind Can We Love? Musically, the song itself is quite simple. Keep the medium tempo steady for the gathered assembly to sing along as you strum the 6/8 time-signature into oblivion! I have "performed" this song with a choir, and with a contemporary music ensemble as well. Both approaches seem to work just fine. A few parishes have already used Can We Love? as a Lenten theme song or for a parish Reconciliation service.

— Tom Booth
Can We Love?
(Guitar/Vocal)

Tom Booth

INTRO  (e = ca. 156)

Am C    G Dm7    Am C    G //

REFRAIN

Am C    G Dm7    Am
Can we love? Can we lay down our lives? Can we wear
C G    Am C    G Dm7 to Coda ?
his crown of thorns? Can we drink the cup that he drinks?

F E7
We must lay down our lives!

VERSES 1, 2

F G    C F    G Am
1. more than raising our hands, it's more than singing this song. It's
2. more than shouting God's name, it's more than singing his praise. It's

F E7 Am G D Dm7
1. saying "yes" to the Giver of life, it's righting the
2. bringing forgiveness to injury's wound, and hope to those im-

INTERLUDE

E7 Eaug 1 E7 D.S. 2 E7 Eaug E7
1. ways that are wrong!
2. prisoned by shame.

G Am C    G Dm7 F E7 Am Am/G
VERSE 3

3. Loving the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and soul, loving our neighbor as ourselves, the kingdom of love we will know!

VERSE 4

4. Feet secure on the ground and hearts humbled by love we stand before God's appointed one and ask the question, and ask the question:

CODA

We must lay down, we must lay down, we must lay down our lives!
Can we love? Can we lay down our lives? Can we wear his crown of thorns? Can we drink the cup that he drinks? We must lay down our lives!

We must lay down, we must lay down, we must lay down our lives!

1. It’s more than raising our hands, it’s more than singing this song. It’s saying “yes” to the Giver of life,
2. It’s more than shouting God’s name, it’s more than singing his praise. It’s bringing forgiveness to injury’s wound.

1. It’s righting the ways that are wrong!
2. And hope to those imprisoned by shame.

3. Loving the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and soul, loving our neighbor as ourselves, the kingdom of love we will know!

4. With feet secure on the ground and hearts humbled by love we stand before God’s anointed one and ask the question:

We must lay down, we must lay down, we must lay down our lives!

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