

# 9. Hold On (Eyes on the Prize)

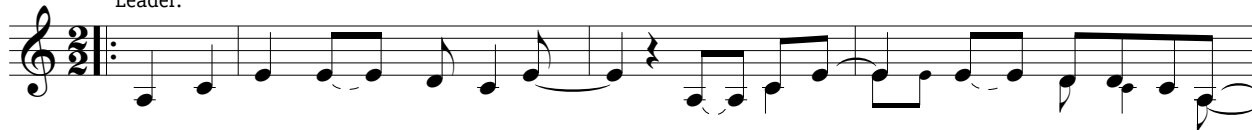
updated 2/13/23

Refrain credited to Alice Wine  
Johns Island, SC | 1950s

African-American Spiritual  
transc. by Justice Choir | 2017

(♩ = 60)

**VERSES:** Leader:



1. Oh, the one thing we did right \_\_\_ was the day \_\_\_ we \_\_\_ start-ed to fight  
2. Got my hands on the free-dom plow, \_\_\_ would-n't take noth-in' for my jour-ney now.

All:



\_\_\_ Keep your eyes on \_\_\_ the prize. \_\_\_ Hold on! \_\_\_

**REFRAIN:**

*melody*



Hold on! \_\_\_ Hold on! \_\_\_ Keep your

*harmony*



Hold on! \_\_\_ Hold on! \_\_\_ Keep your



eyes on \_\_\_ the prize. \_\_\_ Hold on! \_\_\_

## Lyric Suggestions for Verses:

3. Only chains that we can stand, Are the chains of hand in hand. *(Keep your eyes...)*
4. We're gonn' board that big Greyhound, Carryin' love from town to town.
5. Many good souls have fought and died, So we could sing here side by side. *-1963 March on Washington*
6. When united it is clear, We don't have to live in fear. *-Peter "Madcat" Ruth*
7. Building walls and spreading hate, Will not make this country great. *-Laz Slomovits*

## Performance Suggestions:

- This is a "zipper" song. Make up your own lyrics for the Verses.
- Vocal improvisation is encouraged, especially on the Refrain.