

TIDINGS of COMFORT and JOY

Message topic: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Message date: December 6, 2020

Primary biblical texts: Luke 2, Isaiah 54

Purpose of the Advent Message Series

Our Advent message series is called *Tidings of Comfort and Joy*. During the four weeks of Advent, we will look at different Christmas songs and see what they can teach us about God. Try to listen or sing the songs with your group and discuss what comes to mind when you hear each song. (The lyrics are below.)

Message Content

This week, we look at the hymn “Go Tell It on the Mountain” and how it invites us to share the joy of the Good News. Christians shared about its origins in the communities of faith for enslaved people. They took hope in the story of Christmas in which the deliverer had come and then they sang about it because God had delivered them. When they were freed from their slavery, “Go Tell It on the Mountain” became a song performed to remember and celebrate God’s redemption. It’s a song of deep joy, and it calls us to celebrate with joy God’s deliverance.

Discussion Questions

1. Mixer: What recent TV show, movie, music/band, or experience do you share with or wish you could share with everyone you talk to? Why does it bring you so much joy to share it?
2. What stood out to you from this week’s message and song?
3. How would you define joy? Think of what makes you feel grateful, content, hopeful, secure and satisfied—an experience where all is well and everything’s right and you are completely joyful.
4. Have you ever been in a seriously bad or very uncomfortable situation, relationship, or job that you had to endure? How did you cope? How did it feel to be freed from the situation?
5. If you consider yourself a Christian, think back to when you first heard the good news of Jesus? What changed in your life? How did you see the world in a different way?
6. What keeps you from believing the good news is for ALL people? How does our church reflect that God loves “all people?” Are there areas where we can do better at being for all people?

Challenge

1. If there’s an area of your life where you don’t believe God accepts you, where you feel unworthy, confess that to God and accept his love and forgiveness for you, trusting there’s nothing that can separate you from the love of God.
2. Think of someone in your life with whom you could share the Good News this Christmas. Be creative. (Pray for them, share the link to Sunday’s service, buy a Bible for them, share an encouraging verse, tell them your story of how God saved you, etc.)

Close in Prayer

TIDINGS
of
COMFORT
and
JOY

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

When I was a seeker
I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me
And he showed me the way

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
Our Jesus Christ is born

He made me a watchman
Upon a city wall
And if I am a Christian
I am the least of all

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!