**GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN:**

**Sharing the Good News of Jesus this Christmas**

Kerrick Thomas, Lead Pastor November 27, 2022

“I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior - yes, the Messiah, the Lord – has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!”

- Luke 2:10-11

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev’rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn

(c. 1865 Negro Spiritual; first published by John Wesley Work, Jr.)

**Memory Verse:**

“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns!” - Isaiah 52:7

**How to “Go Tell” the Good News of Jesus**

**1. Thank God that the Good News of Jesus is for Everyone**.

“That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them,

and the radiance of the Lord’s glory surrounded them.

They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. ‘Don’t be afraid!’ he said. ‘I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people.’” - Luke 2:8-10

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(Jesus) “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son,

so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” - John 3:16

**2. Be Prepared to Share the Good News of Jesus with Those Around Me**.

“When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, ‘Let’s go to Bethlehem! Let’s see this thing that has happened,

which the Lord has told us about… After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.

*All who heard the shepherds’ story were astonished…’” -* Luke 2:15, 17-18

“And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.” - 1 Peter 3:15

“The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think.

No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.” - 2 Peter 3:9

**3. Send the Good News of Jesus Where I cannot Go**.

(Jesus) “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.”

- Mark 16:15

“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray,

I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.”

- Philippians 1:3-5

**4. Celebrate the Good News of Jesus this Christmas**.

“The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.” - Luke 2:20

“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.’

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him?

And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?” - Romans 10:13-14

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Join us next Sunday, December 4 as we continue the **“*Christmas Carols”*** teaching series with *O Little Town of Bethlehem: How God Can Use Me to Do Extraordinary Things.* Invite your friends and family and join us in-person at 11am at the AMC Empire 25 Theater in Times Square or for church online at 9am, 11am, & 1pm (plus additional online service times including Saturdays at 5pm or 7pm).

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*If you made a first-time decision to follow Jesus today, email* [*follower@journeynyc.com*](mailto:follower@journeynyc.com) *to receive a free copy of “The Next Step for Your Journey” book, plus other helpful materials.*

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*If you are a first-time guest today, email* [*book@journeynyc.com*](mailto:book@journeynyc.com) *to receive a free copy of the book, “Unshakable: Standing Strong When Things Go Wrong” (a $19.95 value).*

All verses are from the New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.

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**My Next Step Today is to…**

□Memorize Isaiah 52:7.

□Ask God to help me tell the Good News of Jesus this Christmas.

* Pray between now and Pledge Sun, Dec 4 and ask God how He would have me give to The NExT Initiative.
* RSVP for the final Membership Class of 2022 next Sunday, Dec 4 from 1:00-3:00pm (free lunch begins at 12:30pm).