

Christmas Playlist

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Series Intro: *Leading up to Christmas, we are building a Christmas playlist together...Heaven's songs are full of God's promises and power. There might be some songs on our playlists that the Holy Spirit wants to replace. Maybe He wants to add some that are missing. We love Christmas music at our house. We usually start in October...I know, early. So many of these songs are full of truths from God's Word. Let's build!*

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

Song History: *Before it became a Christmas song, it was Negro-Spiritual passed from plantation to plantation beginning in the mid-1800's. In 1907, John Wesley Work, Jr published this song and others, becoming the first African American collector of Negro spirituals. This proved to be a daunting task for Work because they were passed down orally, never being written down. There was pressure because these were considered "slave" songs, but Work believed they were God songs and should be preserved for future generations.*

- In one of the darkest times in American history, God was present comforting the hurting, strengthening the weak, and giving hope to the hopeless.
- He birthed songs of power, hope, and peace that they then passed to each other.
- Miraculously, this song exists today. The truth of Christmas rings loud: Good News, for All People, everywhere!
- The song came from Isaiah 52.

Isaiah 52:6-10(AMP)

⁶Therefore My people shall know My Name and what it means. Therefore in that day I am the One who is speaking, 'Here I am. 'How beautiful and delightful on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, Who announces peace, Who brings good news of good [things], Who announces salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices, together they shout for joy; for they will see face-to-face the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹ Break forth, shout joyfully together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The Lord has bared His holy arm (His infinite power) before the eyes of all the nations [revealing Himself as the One by Whom Israel is redeemed from captivity], that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God.

- The word of the Lord through Isaiah describes the setting of captivity and slavery when a messenger brings a message of hope, freedom, and deliverance.

Let's Add Go Tell It on the Mountain to life's playlist today!

Receive God's Song to You.

Isaiah 52:11 (AMP)

Indeed, My Servant (the Messiah) will act wisely and prosper; He will be raised and lifted up and greatly exalted.

- This was a prophetic word for that day and today. Jesus is the messenger who comes over the mountain with Good News, shouting “Your God Reigns.”
- Isaiah says that the watchmen would see the return of the Lord face-to-face.
- We can't tell what we don't know.

Psalms 40:1-2 (NLT)

¹ I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry.

² He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along. ³ He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God.

- How does one steady another? By walking right beside them.
- God didn't send a message at Christmas. He sent the Messenger of Heaven Himself.
- Your greatest praise isn't a song you sing for God, but a life you live with God. He sang to us so He could live with us.

John 1:14a (Message)

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

Protect God's Song in You.

- PRAISE is God's song in us. When we receive this song to us, it causes us to sing a song of praise!
- Protecting isn't a position of fear and defense. The Word of God (His song) is a sword of offense. This is about using what He gave you.

Psalms 34:1-5 (NKJV)

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. ² My soul shall make its boast in the Lord.

Continual: *occurring repeatedly; so frequent as to seem endless and uninterrupted*

- **Practice It**
 - Just like it's hard to forget a song you sing all of the time, His praise must always be on our lips. (use it or lose)

- When it’s a regular part of your life, you always know where it is David said, “My heart is steadfast.” This doesn’t happen on accident, it happens intentionally.
 - When we just let whatever song play, we give up our position. When we intentionally praise, we secure our position. (Example of crazy songs playing when my playlist got to the end.)
 - You may be facing something now that you don’t have a song for...it’s okay, He does in His Word. Time to build it.
- **Build It**
- Build a playlist based on His Word instead of feelings.
 - Time in God’s Word, in His presence, and with His people builds my praise, giving me God’s perspective, so I can experience God’s plan.
 - If your soul is in charge, there are things being told on the mountain that are not good!
 - Praise is a strategic decision to tell your soul what to do.
 - “When the mood hits me.” No, “It’s my will to praise!” David said, “I tell my soul what to say.” “My soul doesn’t tell me what to say.”
 - We can feel ourselves into a new way of acting or we can praise ourselves into a new way of feeling. ***What song is your soul singing?***

Isaiah 52:13 (Amp)

So He will sprinkle many nations [with His blood, providing salvation], Kings will shut their mouths because of Him; For what they had not been told they will see, And what they had not heard they will understand.

- Jesus silences the “kings” in our lives. He removed them from the playlist. Don’t add them back!
- Face it! The world, Satan, and our own feelings are terrible songwriting consultants. But the Holy Spirit is a master at it.

Proclaim God’s Song Through You.

- When His song becomes our song, we are ready to go tell it on the mountain.
- Notice the last part of these 2 passages we’ve already looked at...

Psalms 40:3b

Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the Lord.

Isaiah 52:10c

that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God.

- God’s good news to us is always spread through us.

- My purpose is found in His larger Kingdom purpose. He wants to release Heaven’s song through you and me.

1 Peter 2:9-10 (TPT)

9 But you are God’s chosen treasure —priests who are kings, a spiritual “nation” set apart as God’s devoted ones. He called you out of darkness to experience his marvelous light, and now he claims you as his very own. He did this so that you would broadcast his glorious wonders throughout the world. 10 For at one time you were not God’s people, but now you are. At one time you knew nothing of God’s mercy because you hadn’t received it yet, but now you are drenched with it!

- All of us are shouting something from the mountain. There are “watchmen on the walls” all around us in our homes, at school, and at work looking for answers.
- Let’s make room this Christmas season for God to use us as His messengers. That we carry Him into every room with us. *Feet that carry good news, who announces peace, who brings good news of good [things], who announces salvation, who proclaim to others “Your God reigns!”*