

Short Talk

(SHT078)

Go and Tell

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
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SHORT TALK: “Go and Tell”

Aim of Short talk:	To encourage people to go and share the good news about Jesus with their families, friends and neighbours.
Use of Short talk:	This is a short All Age talk picking out one issue from the Lectionary Gospel reading of the Sunday main service. The talk stands alone and assumes that the Gospel Bible reading may not yet have been read to the congregation. It could be used for example, for the whole congregation before the children go out to their age specific groups, leaving the adults with a full sermon later.
Main themes:	Evangelism, Gospel, Witnessing
Biblical references:	Luke 2:15-21
Lectionary:	Year B – The 1 st Sunday of Christmas
Props:	Big tin of chocolates (enough for everyone to have one),
Before the service:	Position the tin of chocolates on a table somewhere at the front of the church that is easily accessible for people – preferably a little distance from you. Include in the tin some jelly sweets for those people who cannot eat chocolate.

I have some good news today that I would like to share with a few of you,

- and then you are going to share it with everyone else here.

So I need three volunteers to hear my good news and then be willing to share it with everyone else.

(Tell your volunteers in a quiet voice, so the rest of the congregation can't hear that you have a tin of chocolates on the table. There are enough chocolates for everyone in the church to have one each. They are to each go and get a chocolate for themselves and then go and tell everyone in the church to go and get one. Leave time for the news to get out and people to react. When enough people have reacted say:)

This morning the good news that was just shared was that there was a chocolate for everyone here.

- We like to share good news with others don't we, especially if it involves chocolate?

Over two thousand years ago, some other people received some very good news.

- These people were very ordinary shepherds going about their ordinary lives looking after their sheep.

Then suddenly one night an angel of the Lord appeared to them telling them that a Saviour had been born in Bethlehem;

- and that this Saviour was wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

I wonder how you would have reacted to this news.

- After being initially terrified by seeing the angel and then experiencing many other angels praising God,
- the shepherds said *“let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened.”*

So they hurried off and they found Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus, lying in the manger,

- just as they had been told by the angels.

We don't know what happened when the shepherds met Jesus but they left His presence very excited.

- They went out and told everybody that they could find about Jesus and what the angels had said about Him.

The natural reaction of the shepherds, having found Jesus – the Saviour, was to share the good news about Him with as many people as they could find.

Many of us here today have met Jesus and have discovered His wonderful love for ourselves.

- We have experienced the freedom that He gives us when He forgives us our sins.
- We have experienced the peace and hope and joy that He gives us.
- We have good news to share with other people don't we?
- And so let's go and tell others what we have found.

Let me encourage you not to be frightened to share what you have found with those around you, because Christmas for many people is often a very empty time,

- as they discover that presents and food and television shows can never truly satisfy the deep hunger within.
- You have good news to share so, like the shepherds, go and tell others what you have found.