

Oh, The Places You'll Go! (As Disciples)
A Sermon for Holy Humor Sunday
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Matthew 28:16-28

Congratulations!
Today is our day!
We are disciples,
Those who follow 'The Way'.

We have God as our guide.
We have the Bible in hand.
Our job is to spread,
God's love in the land.

We aren't on our own!
The Spirit will guide us.
On our discipleship journey
So don't make a fuss!

We'll pray during the day,
And again in the night,
Asking God for guidance,
For the Spirit to alight.

We go where God calls,
Sometimes beyond reason,
Outside our comfort zones,
in our least favorite season.

When God calls,
Don't worry. Don't fuss.
Just listen to the Spirit.
God be with us.

Oh! The Places we'll go as disciples!

We'll be out in the streets.
We'll be doing great things,
We'll serve all our neighbors,
Sometimes even sing!

We'll keep moving forward,
Because we have a guide.
We'll work together,
As the Spirit takes us for a ride!

Wherever we do ministry,
Things will go smooth,
Where ever we go,
We'll fit right in the groove!

Except when we don't. Because, sometimes we won't!

Being a disciple is hard work.

Sometimes we'll hit bumps,
And be down in the dumps,
And have coffee that doesn't perk.
And feel like a jerk!

We all get flustered on our faith journey,
Like a pretzel without salt,
The point of it all, (at least I would say)
Is don't let your journey come to a halt.

You may come to a place,
That you don't know where to go.
Some ministries seem intriguing,
And others seem slow.

It's a place where deciding could hurt our head!
Which one do we choose,
Or do we just stay in bed?
Or do we jump right in and go down on the sled?

And once we choose where we fit,
Which way will we go?
Right or left? Fast or slow?

Maybe we'll stand out on the edge to decide,
If this is the right place to jump in for the ride,
Or maybe we stand in the corner and hide!

Being a disciple can make us scared,
We teach and we baptize,
But we don't know which pace,
To choose when we are deciding our space.

And sometimes we run to a confusing place!
For sometimes disciples doubt which way to go,
Or we doubt someone will show, or if we're able... you know?

Like the nudge to come worship in 3 feet of snow!
Or we doubt that God said 'yes' or said 'no',
Or we doubt that someday our ministry will grow.

Everyone is just doubting.
Doubting Jesus unless we see,
Like Thomas who went out for tea,
Or someone short who climbs a tree,
Or doubting our sisters and brothers,
To share the Good News with others.
Or doubting our call,
That we are, in fact to serve all...

Somehow we'll heave,
The doubting we'll leave,
We'll find our God given gifts and talents,
And use them as we believe.

Using our gifts for ministry,
We will glorify God's name,
Each one of us ready,
To spark a new flame!

Oh, the places we'll go as disciples!

There is food to be given...love to be shared.
Giving Gardens to water, and people who care.

And the humble service that each one can give,
Can inspire our friends and neighbors how to live,
Yes, we will grow our church family as large as can be,
Large enough that some may have to watch from a tree!

Except when we don't. Because sometimes we won't.

Sometimes we will try,
To share the good news,
And hope that others,
Will not press 'snooze'.

Ministry, whether we like it or not,
Is not always easy and may not reach a lot.
When we try to make disciples there is a chance,
That some things will happen, then we all will dance!

There may also be times,
That our work seems to fail,
But don't lose hope,
God carries us down the trail.

We will continue to try,
With the Spirit as our guide.
We will try and try again,
In the midst of our pride.

To do ministry for our Lord and Savior,
Although even we may not understand,
Our counter-cultural behavior.

We will continue to follow Christ's example
And work through the hard times,
Find solutions that are ample.

Along the journey we will be tempted for sure.
So when we go, be sure to pray.
Pray for guidance and care,
Remember to share the good news God is there.

And will we succeed?
Yes, we will indeed!
(with God's help, guaranteed!)

Disciples, we will do ministry.

So... No matter our talent or the size of our gift
We can help others and God's name we lift
We are disciples. Today is our day.
To enact God's love in a Christ-like way.
So...let's get on with it, whatdy'a say?

Today's sermon was inspired by the gospel reading and Dr. Seuss' book "Oh the Places You'll Go".