

You Shall Go Out with Joy

After witnessing the Lord's ascension (see Luke 24:50-53), the disciples worshiped the Lord and returned to Jerusalem with "great joy." The Lord had commissioned them to go out into the world, baptizing and teaching people.

Specifically, the Lord told them:

- "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).
- "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).
- "Repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations" (Luke 24:47).
- "Peace be with you..." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:19,22).

In all of these "commissions" the Lord is telling His disciples to go out and take what the Lord had given to them to other people, all over the world.

One of the best ways to celebrate Easter might be to appreciate what the Lord accomplished during His life on earth and think of ways that we, too, can spread the good news, each in our own way.