

In Every Voice

Isaiah 42:10-17



Someone tells someone...

I tell someone...who tells someone...who tells someone...and so on

> What often happens?

I pour water in your cup, and you pour some in others' cups, and they pour some in others' cups...and so on

> What happens?

Goal: each person know God personally

As far away as possible...

In your own cultural upbringing, what meant "very far away"?

"Antipode"

Ancient Israel: feared the seas

Very far away = Coastal areas and island

Isaiah 42:10-17

10-12: New believers are to praise God using THEIR voices

13-14: God's work advances like a mighty warrior, yet also like pregnancy and childbirth

15-16: No obstacles can stop God

The Big Idea

**God calls on all humanity
to join in flourishing praise of God
through Jesus
using their own voices**

Every part of earth is to raise its praise to God using its own voice

How does it spread?

Plants Spreading

Vine:

1 root, then a long plant

Stolon:

As the plant spreads, new roots go down

You can then cut the plants apart and they each can grow independently

But it grows better if you don't cut it!

Every part of earth is to raise its praise to God

When the Gospel spreads each group is to...

Make its own roots to God

Bear its own fruit to God

Sing its own songs of praise to God

While staying connected to each other

Isaiah 42:17: God alone can bring the flourishing of the whole earth

All other hopes will fail

Now what?

Spread the good news of Jesus to every people group

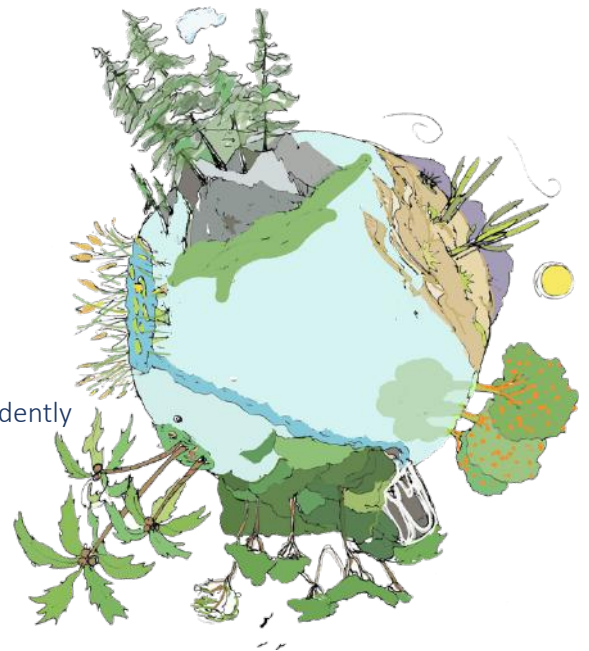
Begin where you are best connected

Branch out from there

We are to be plants that grow wide

So many people have never heard someone they know and trust give them a clear and credible explanation of the Good News of life from God through Jesus

Want help to know how?



Grow our own roots in God

They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." *John 4:42*

Use our own voice to praise to God

Privately

Publicly

Without belittling others' voices

Hear the Good News from every people group

Psalm 98:1-3

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love
and his faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. In your own heritage, have you thought of your people as being close to God or far from God? How has that affected your thinking today, whether in helpful or unhelpful ways?
2. What is the difference between knowing about God (perhaps as other people have told you about Him) and knowing God (knowing Him personally)? Would you say that you are growing in a personal relationship with God? If so, what is that like? What helps that growth? If not, are you interested?
3. How would you explain the Good News of Jesus simply and clearly to someone else? Would you like to learn how to do it better?
4. How do you use your own voice to praise God? How might you grow in that?

Conversation Starters

What do you think actually helps all the peoples of the world flourish?

Is there something you can do to help?