

## What To Do With a Megaphone (and other lessons of the Lutheran Reformation) November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

(*Revelation* 14:6-7)

<sup>6</sup> Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. <sup>7</sup> He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgement has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

1. Imagine what life was like for Martin Luther in 1518. Would you rather be a Christian then or now? Why?

2. WHAT TO HAVE: The angel has an ETERNAL gospel. No matter how bad the world gets, the gospel will always survive. In what ways has God kept that promise throughout history?

3. WHAT TO HAVE: The defining characteristic of this angel is that he has the gospel. That's our defining characteristic too. What things at Mount Olive might threaten to become more important than the gospel? What about in your personal life?

4. WHAT TO DO WITH A MEGAPHONE: The Greek words for the angel's "loud voice" are *mega-leh phon-eh*. He used his megaphone to proclaim the eternal gospel. What megaphones did Luther use? What megaphones do you have?

- 5. WHAT TO FEAR: The word "fear" in v. 7 can be negative like "terror." It can also be positive like Ps. 103:3 "With you there is forgiveness therefore you are feared." How could the angel's message be positive and negative for the people on earth?
- 6. POP QUIZ! Can anybody recite from memory the 1<sup>st</sup>
  Commandment AND the explanation from Luther's Catechism?
  How did Luther practice what he preached?
- 7. WHAT TO FEAR: List 4 or more things someone might be tempted to fear (or worship, or give glory to) more than God.

8. The angel 1) had the eternal gospel, 2) used his megaphone to say the gospel, 3) told the earth to fear God and worship him. Which of these lessons seems most important for you this week? How can you put it into practice?