



Devotional & Article Writing Starters

Topic: "Mountain"

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Take the ideas and build upon them to make them your own. Add in your own points, illustrations, explanations, and relating Bible verses.

Mountaintop Experiences

A mountaintop experience is the opposite of being low in the valley and depressed. It is those experiences in life that we feel elated and on top of the world.

In our Christian lives, it's those moments we feel closest to our Lord and see the work of the Holy Spirit so evident around us.

Just like our low points mold and shape us, our "mountaintop experiences" mold and shape us too.

- Abraham. (Genesis 22)
 - "upon one of the mountains" (Genesis 22:2)
 - God had an angel stop him from killing his son after God had instructed him to do so.
 - Think about the feelings Abraham must have felt when he saw that ram in the thicket.

- There are many examples in the Bible where God blessed people in amazing and powerful ways.
- So how do we climb to the mountaintop and enjoy those moments?
 - Don't allow circumstance to be all that defines you.
 - Make prayer an integral part of your life.
 - Make worship an integral part of your life.
 - Make faith an integral part of your life.
 - Intentionally seek God.
 - Intentionally serve God.
 - Allow the working of the Holy Spirit (That takes the equation from focusing on ourselves to focusing on God.)
 - Reach for more.
 - *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13*
- Sometimes our mountaintop experiences may be brief.
- Sometimes getting to the mountaintop experiences may take a lot of patience and work.
- We must thank God when we get the blessing of a mountaintop experience.
- We must share our experiences with others, so it blesses them as well.

Moving Mountains

- Matthew 17:20
- Matthew 11:23-24
- 1 Corinthians 13:2
- 1 John 5:14
- Faith is our dynamite!
- Heroes of faith (Hebrews 11)

"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

Look at the story of the shepherds in the Christmas story.

- Luke 2
- The shepherds went and saw for themselves what was going on (Luke 2:15)

- After the "saw it", they went and told everyone about it!
- *And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.* Luke 2:17
- Who are we going to tell about Jesus?
- Matthew 28:19-20 ("Go")

*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born
James Baldwin*

Permission Details for "Starters" & Writing Prompts:

You may not reproduce the "starters" or writing prompts as is. You must add and contribute to the content and make your own devotional/article with them before sharing. The end result should be your own thoughts done with your own words. The "starters" and writing prompts are offered as an outline/skeleton base to build upon with your own writing on top of the "starter". Think of them as a "starter" for bread. Your loaf will always turn out a little differently even if others use the same starter as you. Be creative and bake your own loaf!