

Jn. 16:25-33.

Text: Jn. 16:33--"In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Introduction:

1. In text Jesus tells disciples of coming troubles, but ends with text.

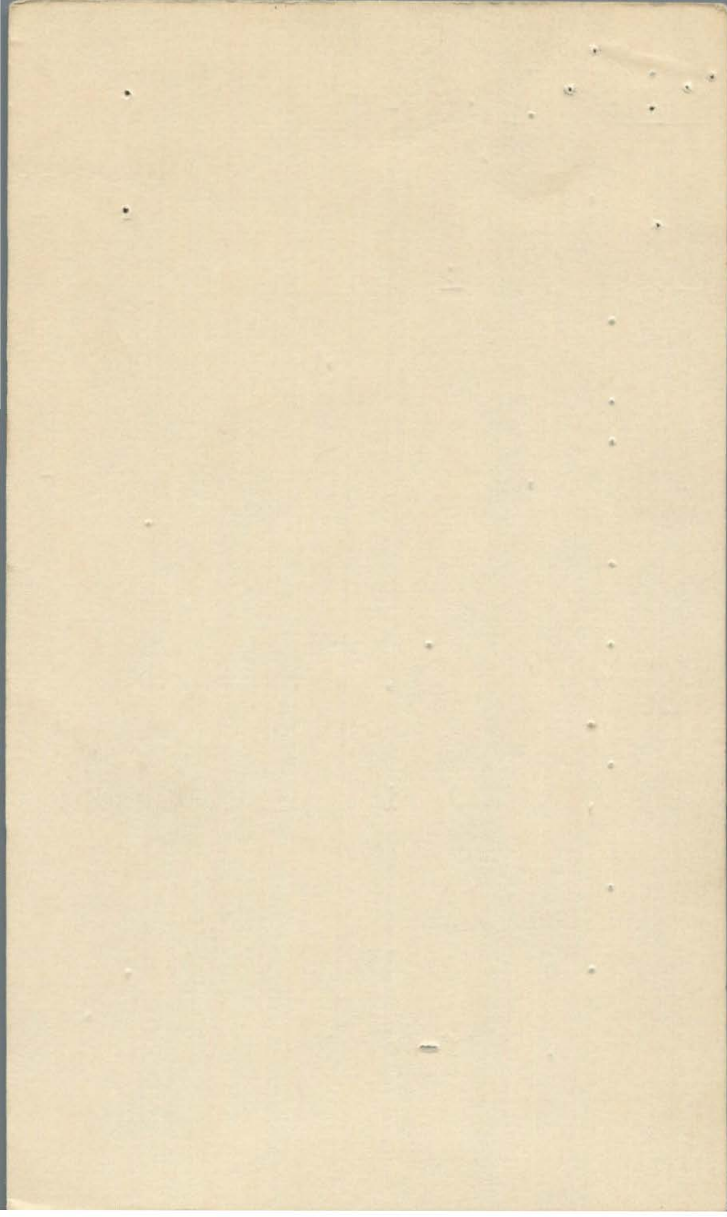
2. At His arrest disciples deserted, but following resurrection were cheerful & active.

3. Text suggests necessity of cheerfulness to Christian.

4. Laura E. Richards in children's book, story of Grumpy Saint.

5. May be possible to be Grumpy Saint, but thesis here that kindness must be done in good cheer.

6. Will look at some saints past & present to illustrate theme. Definition of "saint," is "an extraordinarily charitable, patient, self-denying Christian."



I. Saints of Christ's time.

1. A grumpy saint. Disciples indignation at ointment poured on Jesus, & Judas betrayal of Him immediately following this. Judas' grumpiness a cause of his actions.

2. A cheerful saint. Peter, "son of Thunder," First joyfully confessed Jesus as the Christ. Shared greatest experiences of Christ. First took message to gentiles. A cheerful saint, and an effective doer of good.

II. From the period after Jesus' death to the present: saints.

Effective good by cheerful saints. Cyprian (200-258), bishop of Carthage 2 years after conversion, martyred 10 years after. In letter to Donatus wrote:

"This seems a cheerful world, Donatus, when I view it from this fair garden under the shadow of these vines. But if I climbed some great mountain and looked out over the wide lands, you

