**Miriam, a Woman of Joy**

*Exodus 15:20*

**Main idea**: To explore Miriam's role as a leader and prophetess, highlighting her influence on the Israelites' journey and her joyful response to God's deliverance.

**Topic**: Miriam, a Woman of Joy

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon on Miriam, a woman of joy:

1. Scripture Passages:

- Psalm 30:11-12: "You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever."

- Nehemiah 8:10: "Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'"

- Philippians 4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"

2. Language Suggestions:

- In Exodus 15:20, the Hebrew word for "timbrel" used to describe the instrument Miriam played can be emphasized to highlight the joyful celebration.

- The Hebrew word for "sing" in Exodus 15:21 can be explored to convey the depth of Miriam's joy and its significance in praising God.

3. Additional Points:

- Explore Miriam's role as a leader and prophetess, highlighting her influence on the Israelites' journey and her joyful response to God's deliverance.

- Discuss the importance of finding joy in difficult circumstances, drawing examples from Miriam's experiences in the wilderness.

- Connect Miriam's joy to the broader theme of joy in the Bible, emphasizing the transformative power of joy in one's relationship with God.

Remember to weave these suggestions into your existing sermon outline and use them to reinforce your main ideas about Miriam as a woman of joy.