

# Gospel Ship



## Chorus:

- I'm going to take a trip in that old gospel ship.  
I'm going far beyond the sky.  
I'm gonna shout and sing till the heavens ring  
When I bid this world good-bye.
1. I have good news to bring and that is why I sing.  
All my joys with you I'll share.  
I'm going to take a trip in that old gospel ship  
And go sailing through the air.  
Chorus
  2. I can scarcely wait, I know I won't be late.  
I'll spend my time in prayer  
And when the ship comes in I'll leave this world of sin  
And go sailing through the air.  
Chorus
  3. If you are ashamed of me you ought not to be,  
Yes, you'd better have a care.  
If too much fault you find you'll sure be left behind  
While I'm sailing through the air.  
Chorus

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"Gospel Ship", also known as "Old Gospel Ship" or "The Old Gospel Ship" was recorded by the Carter Family on May 7th, 1935 with Sara and Maybelle both playing guitar. On the previous day they had recorded "Can the Circle Be Unbroken". In the six days of recording sessions they recorded 40 songs, some of which had been recorded previously, but they had switched from Victor to Decca and Decca wanted to cash in on the hit songs of a very popular singing group. The tune of "Gospel Ship" is basically the verse part of the tune of "Rabbit in the Log" (in the Songs section) with the chorus omitted. For this song, the same melody is used for both verse and chorus. I learned this originally from Joan Baez's album **Joan Baez in Concert, Part 1** (1962).