

SERMON SERIES: *Commissioned*

SERMON TITLE: *How To Make Disciples Part 1*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 28:16-20

## REVIEW

- A. What is a disciple?
  - a. A disciple is a person who has received Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and is learning from and being empowered by Jesus to obey all that Jesus commanded.
- B. What is discipleship?
  - a. The process of being with Jesus to learn from Jesus how to obey everything that he commanded.
- C. What is disciple making?
  - a. Helping another person know Jesus as Savior and Lord and grow in obedience to all that he commanded
- D. The spiritual realities that Baptism symbolizes is a prerequisite to obedience.
  - a. Baptism is a ceremony in which a person publicly declares what is already true of them...that through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, they have received Jesus as their Savior and Lord. In other words, Jesus is their new Master and they have trusted in Jesus's perfect life and death to atone for their sin and put them in a right relationship with God, and as a result, God has graciously welcomed them into his family, given them a new nature that hungers and thirsts for God and his righteousness, and given them the gift of the Holy Spirit that now dwells in them empowering them to live righteously.
- E. What Jesus commanded is summed up well in the Sermon on the Mount and the Sermon on the Mount can be summed up by the two great commandments.
- F. Making disciples is critical because it leads to our freedom and the freedom of others, now and forever, which can be defined as the ability to live as we were designed to live.

## HOW DO YOU MAKE DISCIPLES?

**#1 Making disciples requires VISION.**

- A. Looking at how Jesus made disciples in the Gospels gives us a vision for disciple making.
  - a. Studying the Gospels for how Jesus, the Master Disciple Maker, disciplined the 12 should be our go to manual for making disciples today.
- 1. Looking at present day disciple makers can give us a vision for how to make disciples in our current culture and context. (1 Corinthians 11:1)

## **#2 Making disciples requires COMMITMENT.**

- A. We will not grow as disciple makers without a commitment to grow as one. (Mark 8:34-35)
- B. It is foolish to think that we can disciple another person well without an intentional plan and without sacrificing much of our time for that person.
- C. We must say "no" to certain things in order to be able to say "yes" to disciple making.

## **#3 Making disciples requires GRACE.**

- A. Grace is God acting in our lives to accomplish what we can't accomplish on our own.
- B. Intentional effort on our part is not enough to become a skilled and fruitful disciple maker. We need the Master Discipulator with us by means of his Holy Spirit every step of the way. The good news is that he has promised to do just that. (Matthew 28:20)
- C. The enemy wants you to lose sight of Jesus with you and only see yourself and your inadequacies.
- D. Why is having Jesus with us on the mission to make disciples such good news?
  - a. To have Jesus with us is to be accompanied by the One in whom all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to. (Matthew 28:18)
    - i. There is nothing or no one anywhere and at all times that is more powerful than Jesus.
      - 1. Jesus's death and resurrection prove it.
  - b. If God didn't spare his own Son to meet our greatest need of rescue from sin, Satan, and eternal death, but delivered his Son up for us, how will he not with

Jesus freely give us all that we need as we embark on the mission to make disciples?

- c. At Jesus's side, who or what can stand against us?
- E. The mission to make disciples, while it is our mission, it ultimately is Jesus's mission that he has chosen to accomplish through us. He is leading, he is the one making the disciples, and we are simply assisting.
  - a. Snow blower illustration
    - i. Trying to make disciples with solely our own effort, wisdom, and strength will feel like sheer toil and it will totally drain us. But as we put forth effort and simultaneously rely on Jesus with us, disciple making becomes fruitful, sustainable, and enjoyable.
- F. How do we have an interactive relationship with Jesus by way of the Holy Spirit?
  - a. Through engaging God through the two major spiritual disciplines of engaging God's Word and prayer.
- G. Remember that we don't make disciples to work for our salvation but to work **OUT** our salvation.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus is our vision for how disciples are to be made. What elements were present in Jesus's discipleship of the 12? What methods did he use? What content did he utilize?
2. Jesus spent three years, 24/7 discipling the 12. What are the factors that make discipleship a marathon and not a sprint?
3. Do you know of any present day examples that you can observe to catch a vision for how to make disciples using the same methods as Jesus but in our current culture and context? If not, why do you think there are so few present day examples?
4. What in your life would you have to say "no" to in order to say "yes" to disciple making?
5. Why do you think Jesus spent the majority of his time with the 12 and not the crowds?
6. Why is intentional effort alone not sufficient enough to make disciples?
7. How should "Jesus with us" relieve the pressure of disciple making?

8. What are the results of attempting to disciple another person without relying on an interactive relationship with Jesus?
  
9. Do you have a practice of regularly engaging Jesus through the spiritual disciplines of engaging God's Word and prayer? If so, what does that look like in your life? When? How? For how long? What days of the week? If not, why not?