

THE REAL REASON WE ARE HERE

Based on the command of Christ #49 – “Make Disciples”

Matthew 28:18-20

18. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20. and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The win for Jesus is discipleship!

I. What is the task that Jesus gave us?

All of us are called to make disciples that can make disciples.

Making disciples is not something we can do on our own so God gives us His resources.

1. He gives us His power and authority.

Authority is the right to do something; power is the ability to do it.

2. He promises us his presence.

God's presence in the bible is the promise of His favor, His blessing, and success.

Discipleship is not a program but a relational process, as we live life.

God has given each one of us a unique network or mission field in which to make disciples.

II. How Do we Obey Jesus' Command?

Jn. 20:21 - "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

We obey his command by living as messengers sent with a message, but the goal is not to make converts, it is to make disciples.

John 17:4 - I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

He was not talking about His death, burial and resurrection right here because he had not gone to the cross yet...

He was talking about teaching and demonstrating His commands to His disciples...

And preparing them for their future as disciple makers who would teach others His commands!

The disciples became the messengers who carried the message around the world.

The task was and is to make disciples who can make disciples.

Rom. 10:14 - "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?"

Being a Christ follower is not a spectator sport.

III. There are No Spectators on God's Team!

Church is meant to be made up of individuals who are engaged and active, not just attending.

Discipleship cannot happen without a local church.

What gifts and abilities do you have to help others be like Jesus?

God put you on the team as a player not a spectator in the stands.

Do you see yourself as a spectator or player?

IV. Looking at a Reproducible Process

2 Timothy 2:1-2

1. You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

A disciple is someone who follows Christ, is being changed by Christ and is committed to the mission of Christ.

An intentional process helps us cooperate with the process God already has each of us in.

If we are not intentional, we will make disciples by chance and not by design.

1. Jesus Modeled Winning Disciples.

Jesus shared with them because he cared about them.

We should share the Gospel with people because we really do care about them!

2. Jesus Modeled Training Disciples.

Spiritual infants need to connect with spiritual family so that the family can help care for them.

Relationships are a necessary means of Christ being formed in us.

Most of our shaping comes as we rub shoulders with others.

The Church is an organism, not an organization!

All of us are in a process of Christ being formed in us.

Some are spiritual infants,

Some are spiritual children,

Others are spiritual young adults,

And others of us are spiritual parents.

It is a necessary part of the growth process to serve in the kingdom and in the church family.

Many don't have the habit of serving and as a result, are stunted in their spiritual growth.

Spiritual infants need to focus on new truths and new habits to grow;

Spiritual children need to be connected to spiritual family to grow;

Spiritual young adults need to engage in serving, find their place and their purpose in the body.

And as they mature they need to be released or sent to make disciples of others.

3. Jesus Modeled Sending Disciples.

As disciples grow they become more and more concerned about the spiritual lives of others.

Questions to ask yourself...

Do I need to be discipled?

Am I committed to making disciples?

Who has God placed in my life that I can share with?

How can I get onto the field to help make disciples?