

The Great Commission – Make Disciples

A disciple is a learner or follower. A disciple of Jesus Christ is a learner or follower of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship is the process of becoming a committed follower of Jesus Christ.

Read Matthew 28:18-20

What Jesus is telling these disciples to do in these verses applies to us today.

- this isn't something that we can choose to do or not to do, it's a command to obey.

Go – to travel, depart; go (one's way)
therefore – indicates something follows

Make disciples – two applications

1. - to become a pupil
 - to be the disciple of one; to follow his precepts and instruction
2. - to disciple; enroll as scholar
 - to make a disciple; to teach, instruct

Nations - a race; a tribe; non-Jewish; Gentile, heathen, nation, people: those without Christ

Baptizing them - signifying a new life in Christ
- those who understand and can be taught

Teaching them – teach the new disciple observe or keep all things you have been taught

- Jesus is with us always
- Jesus is with us as we go make disciples
- He gave us the work, and promises His presence to complete the work
- His power and protection

How is the process of discipleship shown in the Bible?

1 Corinthians 15:3 – Paul passed on the Corinthians instruction he received

2 Timothy 2:2 – Paul tells Timothy to pass on instruction he received to faithful people who then would be able to pass that on to someone else

The command to make disciples gives you focus and direction to your life!

How do you know you are a disciple?

Read John 8:31-32

- if you remain in the words of Jesus Christ
- to remain or abide is to continue to stay in a place or relation (from the Greek word meno)
- to be at home with: are you at home with the God's word; is God's word at home with you?

The promise to claim is that the truth of God's word sets you free from the bondage of sin!

Jesus instituted the process of discipleship to reach the nations with the good news of salvation through faith in Him.

Jesus' command to make disciples found in the below Biblical references may be best understood through an illustration of an archer with a drawn bow shooting an arrow at a target.

Mark 16:15 – Go into the world and preach the gospel to all creation

- The world is the target

John 20:21 – Jesus is the archer shooting the arrow

- the sent are represented by the arrow in this illustration heading for the target which is the world

Acts 1:8 – You will receive power of the Holy Spirit; the drawn bow is the power that launches the arrow

- the Holy Spirit is the power source

Luke 24:46-47 – The tip of the arrow is the message of repentance and forgiveness of sins being proclaimed

- the content of the message is the good news of salvation in Jesus

Matthew 28:19-20 – Go and make disciples; the shaft of the arrow is the means to take the tip to the target

- the process by which the message of the good news of salvation in Jesus is spread