

The Disciple-Making Process

Part 1 – Will You Commit?

Matt 28:1-10,16-20

Introduction:

- Common mentality in Christianity today
 1. Pastors are h_____ to do the work of the church.
 2. Missionaries are h_____ to spread the gospel to the world.
- Biblical mentality – every believer is called
 1. To be a m_____ (Eph 4:12)
 2. To make d_____ (Matt 28:19,20)

Jesus Commands You to be a Disciple-Maker

- Who was present at the giving of this Great Commission?
 1. The _____ disciples (which would be the apostles – v. 16)
 2. Jesus b_____ (which would be all the other followers of Christ - v. 10)
 - a. Some of these d_____ (v. 17)
 - b. Those that doubted were seeing Jesus for the f_____ time and He did not look like the Jesus they followed:
 - 1) Is 52:14 prophesies that the suffering would mar His appearance more than any other m_____.
 - 2) Before being nailed to the cross, Jesus was b_____ beyond recognition (Matt 27:30; Mk 14:65; Jn 19:3)
 - 3) They had to view the w_____ of the crucifixion (nail prints in His hands and feet), before being convinced of His identity.
 - c. The brethren on that mountain numbered over _____ (I Cor 15:6)
- Therefore the command applies to every single believer
 1. Will you commit to obeying this command, even if you don't know what this involves?
 2. Why would you hesitate in making a commitment to obey the Lord? – your reason may be a misconception that views Jesus as being in h_____ giving orders to us on earth and watching us carry them out.

Jesus Empowers You to be a Disciple-Maker

- Jesus received a_____ authority after rising from the dead (v. 18)
 1. He had this authority before becoming h_____
 2. He lost this authority by becoming human and had to submit to other authorities such as:
 - a. P_____ authority (Lk 2:51)
 - b. G_____ authority (Jn 19:11)
- The word “therefore” draws a l_____ conclusion
 1. Since Jesus has received all authority make d_____ of all the nations.
 2. Jesus is not just commanding us but em_____ us to make disciples.
- This power is intimately connected with His p_____ (v. 20)
 1. Jesus is physically in heaven, but is s_____ with each believer through His Holy Spirit, who indwells us.
 2. Without Jesus' power and presence, disciple-making would be impossible, because it is a s_____ natural process.
- Jn 14:12 gives an awesome picture of this empowerment
 1. *He who believes in Me*
 - a. This refers to every single believer regardless of s_____ maturity or development.
 - b. This is personalized for you and me, so that you and I can write our name in this verse. Go ahead and put your name in the blank below and see what Jesus says about you!

Truly, truly, I say to you, _____, the works that I do shall you do also; and greater works than these shall you do; because I go to the Father.

2. List some works that Jesus did up to the point that He made this promise.
 - a. H_____ diseases
 - b. T_____ God's word without error
 - c. R_____ the dead
3. Note: Jesus said that each believer "shall" do as He does, but who has done b & c?
 - a. *The works that I do shall you do also...* (the NIV wrongly translates *I have done*)
 - ♦The underlined is in the Greek present tense (emphasizes ongoing activity) and is stressing the works that Jesus p_____
 - ♦The context gives us the works that Jesus practiced (only what the Father did) - v. 10 – Jesus does nothing on His own but the Father abiding in Him does His w_____s.
 - b. Therefore, the works that we will do are the works that God, who abides in us, will do (see v. 20)
4. What are the "greater" works?
 - a. Greater than "t_____" - refers to all the works the disciples had seen Jesus do (heal, stop storms, multiply loaves, raise the dead, etc).
 - b. The reason that the works a believer will do will be greater – because Jesus went *to the F_____*
 - ♦Jesus went to the Father to ask Him to send the Holy Spirit, who would i_____ each believer (v. 17)
 - ♦The works that the Holy Spirit will do through believers are convict the w_____ of sin, righteousness and judgment (16:8)
 - c. What Jesus accomplished on earth was great, but what He will accomplish through us while in heaven is greater - the s_____ of the world (i.e. people from every nation)! – so make disciples of all the nations!

Conclusion:

- The main command is to make disciples of all the nations
 1. The KJV translates as "teach" all nations
 - a. The Greek word is an action word that comes from the same root as the Greek word for disciple. The root is underlined:
mathēteuō – action verb "to make disciples"
mathētēs – noun "disciple" (literally, I_____)
 - b. "Teaching" does not adequately communicate the result of transforming a person into a learner, a follower of Christ.
 2. Making disciples is a s_____ process
 - a. This is something only G_____ can do (I cannot make a person become a disciple).
 - b. So how do we fulfill this command? (next message)
- For now, will you make a specific commitment to the Lord to being a disciple-maker, regardless of what that involves?

Lord, I commit to making disciples. Change the world through me.