



JESUS HAS ALL AUTHORITY

PASSAGES

Matthew 28:18-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 2:5-15; Romans 1:1-6; Revelation 5; 1 Corinthians 15:22-27; Acts 2:36; Colossians 1:18; Acts 1:1-8; Genesis 3:1-6; Galatians 5:17; 1 John 2:15-16; 1 Peter 5:8

PREPARE

1. Before leading your group into studying the passage, take some time to study and pray through the passages yourself.
2. Consider these questions.
 - Authority can be defined as, "the right to exercise power." Why might this be important to the mission of "making disciples?"
 - According to Philippians 2:8-11, Hebrews 2:9, and Revelation 5:9, what occurred prior to Jesus receiving his authority?
 - According to Romans 1:4, when did he receive this authority?
 - According to 1 Corinthians 15:27 and Acts 2:36, who gave this authority to Christ?
 - Is there a time when Christ will give up this authority? If so, when? why?
 - According to Matthew 16:18, what was Jesus claiming he would do?
 - Considering Jesus' statements in Matthew 16:18 and Acts 1:8, for what purpose does Jesus exercise this authority?
 - How does Acts 2:1-47 exemplify Jesus' authority and mission?
 - In Acts 2:1-47, what role did people/community have in accomplishing the mission of God?
 - What are some competing authorities with which believers must contend?
 - What are some manifestations of competing authorities in our contemporary culture that are part of the world system described in 1 John 2:16?

DISCUSS

1. Open the door for any initial discussion, questions, or comments about the teaching.
2. Identify the truths in this passage related to the following principles:
 - Jesus clearly states that his authority has been given to him contrasted with Him always having this authority from eternity past.
 - Jesus clearly states that He has been GIVEN authority over heaven and earth.
 - Adam and Eve were given the responsibility to rule over the earth. God supplied everything to them in order to accomplish his mission.
 - At the Fall, people lost not only their intimate relationship with God, but also their position of authority over the earth! So, in stepped another:
Satan (2 Corinthians 4:4, John 14:30, Ephesians 2:2)
 - When Jesus died and rose from the dead, these acts not only paid our payment for sin and gave us eternal life, but they also restored the human race back into their original position of authority over the earth in the person of Jesus Christ - the second Adam.
 - According to Matthew 16:18, who is building the Church?
 - According to Colossians 1:18, what is Christ's role in the Church?
 - According to Matthew 28:19, what role does the Church play in the mission of God?
 - According to Acts 1:1-8, how is Jesus' authority exercised on earth?
 - According to Matthew 16:18, Jesus talks about the gates of Hades. In this picture, who is on the offense and who is on the defense?
 - According to 1 Corinthians 15:28, Christ's authority in the sense that it is now will come to an end. This will be at the conclusion of the mission accomplished!

APPLY

1. Review the core principles from the study.
2. Share your own personal reflections/convictions related to Jesus being the centerpiece of God's mission.
3. Lead others in identifying their view of Jesus in relationship to their lives and God's mission. The point here is to spur on some thinking that will allow the Holy Spirit to bring about some conviction.