



I WILL BE WITH YOU ALWAYS

PASSAGES

Matthew 28:18-20; Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 5:18-19; Colossians 1:27, 2 Corinthians 1:3-5; Romans 6:3-6; Ephesians 1:3; 2 Peter 1:3; Acts 1:8; Colossians 1:3-5; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; Revelation 21:1-6

PREPARE

1. Before leading your group into studying the passage, take some time to study and pray through the passages yourself.
2. Consider these principles.
 - Presence: As we work through these passages, we want to consider the issue of what it meant for Jesus to promise that He would be with us until the end of the age. He is speaking of a very real presence in us as we live missional lives for Him.
 - Power: Not only do we see the reality of Jesus' presence in us until the end, but we also realize that the presence was not merely for emotional stability but to provide a real life power that we need along the journey. This is closely linked to the concept of His authority.
 - Perspective: Lastly, Jesus' words introduce us to a crucial aspect of missional living which is perspective. As we face the real challenges of a life lived on mission for God, we are put in a position to either let circumstance guide our view or choose to set our eyes on Christ's return.

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 restores peace to us as broken image bearers. We were fundamentally estranged from Him and enemies of Him, but He reconciled us.
 - Jesus redeemed us as image bearers and set us on the path of being restored.

- Jesus now resides within our physical bodies and His power is always available to us.
- In considering a life lived on mission for God, we are not only reminded of, but should indeed be dependent on the presence of Jesus in us as we live for Him.
- By our union with Christ in His death and resurrection, we have freedom from the authority of sin. We are no longer slaves to follow its desires but we are free to reject it and present ourselves to God as those alive from the dead.
- Not only freedom from sin's authority, but we also receive all spiritual blessings because we are in Christ. These aren't random gifts, but they collectively form all that we need for life and godliness.
- The Holy Spirit also resides in our physical bodies and leads and directs our lives in the way we should go.
- There is a real encouragement and strength that we receive and live in when we know and increase our faith in the things to come.
- True missional living is living for the day when all things will be restored.

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.