

Disciples who make disciples

This is the first Sunday of 2023, and I have to say, it is such a privilege to be able to be here with you guys today.

New Year's Day is typically a day where people set new resolution for themselves

But today is different. Instead of setting resolutions for ourselves, We will be reminding ourselves what God has commissioned for us as a church to do, and that is to **make disciples, that make disciples** in ensuring that as a church we are raising up the **next generation**, for the sole purpose of bringing **ALL** the glory to God

Let's pray

Today we will be in Matthew chapter 28 verses 18 through 20

- Leading up to this section of verses, Jesus Christ rises from the dead, his resurrection,
- Both Mary's seeing an angel — seeing the empty tomb — and being sent out to tell the disciples that Jesus has risen, — while on the way Jesus appears to them to remind them to not be afraid.
- the religious leaders bribe the soldier to spread lies about Jesus being resurrected
- Finally now Jesus sends his disciples back to Galilee where he will commission them.

Let's read.

Matthew 28:18–20 (NLT):

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given **all authority** in heaven and on earth.

- **All/ complete power and authority**
- You see Jesus is reminding his disciples of who he is, Jesus is getting his disciples ready for something that defines even our church, us this New Years morning too.

He's getting them ready for an absolute and irrefutable Command to **make disciples**.

Replace "His disciples' with your name.

Jesus is telling me, justo, You, us that he has all authority both in heaven and on earth.

Philippians 2:9-11

9 Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

As a Christian, as a young man, I need to be reminded of the complete authority my commander has. I need to be reminded of his complete authority, so that I walk in boldness while growing not only as a disciple myself, but as a person that God can use to make other disciples for the purpose of bringing Glory to Jesus Christ.

Do you need to be reminded of that this morning, that we serve Jesus, who doesn't have a portion or percent of power, but has absolute authority and power.

Pause

Guys

We don't need to have the power ourselves,

We don't need to have the authority ourselves

We don't need to have the strength ourselves.

- In order to make disciples -

(Give a little background here) use the word weakness

Paul had a weakness that is often referred as his thorn in his flesh
He asked three times for the lord to take it away

And this was the Lord's reply (embrace weaknesses)

2 Corinthians 12:9

...“My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” (Says the Lord)
(Paul then writes)

So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.”

Now we can rejoice in our weakness, and come to the end of ourselves and say Lord, although I'm weak, use me to be a disciple who makes disciples. While bringing glory to your name

Embrace that weakness, because that weakness reminds us that we also only need his grace.

Boast about your weakness so that the power of Christ can work through you as you make disciples.

Encourage

Let's keep reading

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

- Jesus said “Go” it wasn't a suggestion or if you want to.

For example it's as if the highest ranking officer commanded the lowest ranked soldier in the army with a duty, we know that job would get done because of the absolute power the officer has over the soldier.

But this power in the hands of Jesus is perfect, and we are his lowest ranking soldiers that Jesus has commanded to Carry out his great commission.

- You see He said Go, to his disciples, who were a bunch of imperfect men.
- Just like he commands us to Go, a bunch of imperfect people with flaws and weaknesses, insecurities, anxiety, and depression.
- he said GO and make disciples my grace is all you need

A disciple is a student, someone who learns, someone that follows his teacher so closely that they become like him.

There is no distinction between a christian to a disciple, what that means is this,

When we accept JESUS christ as our Lord and Savior, it begins a season that will last a lifetime of us saying Lord , I desire to learn from you, and lord as I become a student of your living word, use me to teach others about you Jesus.

— that's being a disciple who makes disciples —

In the past two weeks the Active youth ministry has been moving in a direction of taking Jesus outside of these two doors.

Two weeks ago we started practicing on how to share the gospel to each other. And seeing them wrestle in verbalizing who Jesus is has been amazing.

God is on the move!!!

(Wind to my sails)

How do we take part in the great commission?

If you're working on a construction site you can learn to be a disciple that makes disciples on the jobsite.

If you're working in an office you can learn to be a disciple that makes disciples in the office.

If you're working on being a parent, you can learn to be a disciple that makes disciples by the way Jesus has called you to live your life and raise your children.

If you're a young adult Or a youth, ask Jesus to use you like he used timothy or Titus, to be young disciples that picked up their cross and started following at a young age.

—nothing more beautiful than seeing a youth on fire for christ—

For Example) Pastor Dave was disciplined and taught, and he still has men that disciple him from time to time. But he's been my main teacher, he's taken me under his wing.

Guys he helped me put this message together,

and now I have the opportunity to pour into you this morning, so that you can go learn how to disciple your children, your peers, and your family.

As a church that's one of our focuses (talk) continual

Tuesdays nights - this church is discipling the women and Men's ministries

Wednesday nights - this church is discipling the children, youth, and adults

Thursday morning - this church is discipling women's ministry

And this morning - this church is discipling you.

Grow get plugged in fam

Romans puts it so perfectly

Romans 10:13–15 (NLT):

13 For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14 But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? 15 And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

- Christian in the room, you are saved because you CALLED on the name of the Lord
- You Believe in Jesus Christ, because you HEARD the good news
- Christian in the room you heard about Jesus Christ Because someone TOLD you about him
- Someone told you because they were disciplined and SENT out
- They became the BEAUTIFUL FEET that were obedient in bringing the Good news to you.

How awesome how God puts all this together!!!

The way you take part in the great commission is by praying that God gives you an opportunity to share the gospel! — And when he does — when he tugs at your heart to GO and share his name, you **GO** and tell that person that Jesus is THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and THE LIFE. —

And if God allows it, take them under your wing — **disciple that person** TO BE the next generation that brings Glory to the name of Jesus.

AWESOME!!!

And what are we called to do with these **disciples** of all nations?

Baptize them in the name of the father the son and the Holy Spirit,

- Baptism is declaring to the world that God has begun an amazing transformation from within you, because you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and savior, allowing the Holy Spirit to dwell inside of you.

One of my greatest memories I have now as a believer was when God allowed me to get baptized in my parents' pool in their backyard 3 years ago, when literally a year prior I had snuck a group of friends into that same backyard to get high and drunk while the house was getting renovated.

And it was by God's faithfulness, that a month later after that night, he saved me here. Because Grant was faithful to teach that morning.

Just like he called my name 4 years ago here in this church, and drew me to himself

Is the same way he seeks after you this morning. He created you, he designed you, and the start of knowing what he created you for is knowing him.

So man if you're getting to the end of yourself and are debating whether to accept Jesus as your savior or not , you should do it!

Or if you've already asked Jesus as your lord and savior, start wrestling with the next step of being obedient in getting baptized

Be a disciple of Jesus Christ, who makes disciples of Jesus Christ.

Then Jesus continues to give more instruction for discipleship here in verse 20

20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- Church, to get to the point, disciples need to be raised up!

There are 3 people to discipleship: a teacher, a student, and Jesus.

- A natural Part of being a follower of Jesus Christ, is to come alongside other believers and disciple them, to help them learn more about Jesus, as both of you become more like christ
- If you're serving anywhere your goal as a servant is to replace yourself in the body of Christ, through discipling, to generationally be able to give Glory to God.

Pastor Dave's vision

We serve the greatest of all kings who promises at the end of verse 20 that he is always with us.

It's his promise, that he's with us to the end of age

He's with us even when we don't feel qualified enough to be a be a disciple, that makes disciples

- Look to be transparent with you guys, in this season of going into full time ministry both ashley and i feel unqualified at times

But I want to assure you, scripture says, that there is nothing that can rip us away from the hand of God. His promises are his promises.

And the reason I say this is because the enemy is going to attack. Especially as this church continues to make disciples.

And he's going to attack you personally, and relationally.

So rejoice when he does, and hold on to the hand of God. And his promises

John 10:27–29 says this

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, 29 for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand.

Jesus being with us means we have his provision and protection as we learn to be a disciple that makes disciples, until he calls us home

Jesus being with us means we move in his authority as we learn to be a bold disciple that makes disciples,

Jesus being with us means having his peace, as we learn to make disciples ,

Church

- There Nothing like looking down at your feet and knowing you're standing right in the center of God's will for your life.

It's the name of Jesus Christ, its his authority, it's his building, it's his people, it's his disciples, it's all for his Glory

And what I pray for myself is that I continue to choose to bring him Glory

- by learning to be a disciple, who makes disciples, that make disciples

All for his Glory alone.

Will you choose to take part in the great commission with us as we learn to be disciples that makes disciples?

All for what church? **His Glory.**

Pray response time

Pray closing