



September 6, 2026 | Pastor Stephen Littlejohn
Series: Belonging To Christ: Christ Gathers Us

Christ Gathers Us

Matthew 28:18-20

Printed notes

We are the gathered people of God; gathered for mission and maturity, so the Lord Jesus Christ has given us His kingdom authority and promised presence so that we might boldly take the gospel to our neighbors and the nations, abiding with them until they are mature followers of Jesus Christ.

Back to the beginning: Three Circles

Why does God gather us together anyway?

Why not just saved individuals?

What Is A Church?

- The church is a _____ of Christians who are in _____ fellowship, where the _____ is rightly preached, and baptism and the Lord's Supper are _____ administered.

Why did Christ Gather Us into His family?

- Christ gathers us for _____ and _____
- Christ gives us kingdom _____ and his promised _____ - vv.18, 20
- Christ did NOT gather us
 - To be _____ warriors
 - To be a _____ Christian

Christ Gathers Us To Go Make Disciples - (v.19)

- Two aspects of Jesus' command to go:
 - We share the gospel as we go about _____
 - We share the gospel by _____ to travel to where the lost people are.
- We go for a purpose: To _____

Christ Gathers Us To Baptize New Believers Into the Body of Christ - (v.19)

- We lead them _____, and we bring them into _____ for a purpose.

Christ Gathers Us To Mature Other Believers (v. 20)

- We _____ them - **2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 2:2-3**
- We _____ with them - **Ephesians 4-11-16; Colossians 1:28**
- How do people grow?

So What?

- So what's the goal? (See handout)
- 2 Timothy 2:2

Now What?

- Taking your Discipleship wheel from Sunday, read the following Scripture and identify if you see the process in Paul's discipleship of Timothy

CONNECT → SHARE → TRAIN → RELEASE

- Paul _____ Timothy to gospel mission (Acts 16:1–3).
- Paul _____ his life and truth with Timothy (2 Tim. 3:10–14).
- Paul _____ Timothy through actual ministry (1 Thess. 3:1–6).
- Paul _____ Timothy to lead and reproduce (1 Tim. 1:3; 2 Tim. 2:2).
- Based on this truth, where are you on the discipleship wheel? Who are you leading to maturity?

Giving Report for July:

Average Weekly Receipts: \$4,415.30

Average Weekly Needs: \$4,350.62

Fiscal Year Receipts to date: \$183,553.53

Needs to date: \$188,526.70

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