

The Mission:

Jesus said, "All authority on heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I've taught you, and surely I will be with you always to the very end."

Question: What is God's will for my life?

This question dominates a Christian's daily prayers. Trying to ascertain what God actually wants us to do can vex us over something as simple as what to eat or as complex as who to marry or where to live.

Question: What does God actually want me to do?

Jesus never answered this question more clearly for His Followers than He did during the last conversation he had with His disciples. Before ascending into heaven, He told them plainly to make disciples. The inputs and tactics for making disciples were simple:

Baptize
Teach
Trust

Like most passages, we do not find Jesus directly addressing us individually, rather He is addressing the Eleven. However, this passage exposes a chain of instruction that carries directly to the present-day Believer. Jesus told His disciples to make other disciples. Among other things, they were to teach those disciples everything Jesus had taught them ... which obviously includes this command to make disciples, baptizing, teaching, and trusting.

Matthew's Gospel begins with a genealogy, and it ends with one as well. For every Follower of Jesus, Matthew's second genealogy ends with their name. One of those Eleven baptized, taught, and trusted Jesus with someone who disciplined someone who disciplined someone and so on until eventually one of their spiritual grandkids disciplined you.

You are the most recent link in a chain that spans 2000 years.

What is God's will for your life?

I don't know, but I bet it's not to be the last link in that chain. You are called to make disciples.

MISSION OUTLINE

All authority on heaven and earth has been given to me ...
... therefore go make disciples ...
... baptizing them in the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit

... teaching them to obey everything I've taught you
... and surely I will be with you all until the end of the edge

God's will for your life can be known.

An unbroken chain of discipleship carrying this commission to you directly.

Odds that God's will is for the chain to end with you? Low

Baptism

Baptism as the beginning of Jesus putting life back together.

Baptism as the beginning of discipleship.

Baptism as something Jesus has called me to do for you (vs. Jesus has called you to do).

Teaching

Everything Jesus taught You (only teach what you actually know and practice).

Teaching to obey (vs. Teaching to Know).

Launch with Trust

Jesus-dependent vs. discipler-dependent

Launched into discipling

Spiritual Grandkids

