

Discipleship

In light of the fact that Christ has saved us through his death burial and resurrection, we have given our allegiance to Christ. Within this proclamation is a statement that says, "we no longer live for ourselves but that we have subjected ourselves to Christ's desires and we now function under his Lordship."

Jesus gives us a command in Matthew 28:16-20, which says,

"Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in 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 and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

This command gives us as followers some real insight. Jesus tells us that "all authority" has been given to him. If he is in charge, then that means that we must take what he says seriously. Not only do we take Him seriously, but we understand that if he is truly In charge...we are not! What is said after this statement of authority is defining

what he desires from his disciples: to make disciples! Sometimes it is believed that this is the charge of the pastor, Sunday school teacher, missionary etc., but we see in Scripture that it is the charge of all disciples.

Ephesians 4:11-13 says,

"So Christ himself gave some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

The command of making disciples is a command for every follower of Jesus. Christ gave to some Believers the role of being pastors and teachers in order to equip "his people" (other followers of Christ) "for works of service" (the making of disciples). So then, every Believer is responsible for the making of disciples. Far too often, the responsibility of "equipping" has been relegated to the "job" of church leaders.

Christ has left us his example in making disciples. If we claim to truly be his Followers, we would take note of how he trained those around him and replicate that in our own lives. Christ used everyday situations to explain the Gospel. One example of this is Jesus' Parable of the Sower, where Jesus used the illustration of a farmer in order to connect people to the Gospel.

Section Questions

What are some ways we see Jesus making disciples?

In what environments did Jesus make disciples?

What do we need to reconsider about how we are making disciples?

Are you making disciples who understand Gospel-Centered Living?

Are you making disciples who make other disciples?

What are the main things you desire someone you are discipling to know/do?

How important is it for them to know and understand the Gospel?

Is there an area of unbelief in your life that you need to repent of in order to move forward?