

The Fundamental List - Part 7

In every generation, new and sometimes toxic opinions get woven into streams of Christianity. Which is why it is essential to remembering one primary fact– the starting point and the ending point for understanding what God is like, is Jesus. And in his final days on Earth, Jesus made it clear that He– not a religious order or set of texts– was the source of authority in Heaven and on Earth, and He challenged his followers to actively make disciples throughout the course of their lives, devoting time and resources to furthering the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

Getting Started

1. We're almost halfway through the traditional school calendar "Summer Break." What have you gotten right during this season? What do you need to adjust moving forward?

What About You?

- 2. Do you find it easy or difficult to talk with skeptical people about your faith when it comes up? Why?
- 3. When have you seen the Bible leveraged to justify actions you suspect Jesus would not condone?
- 4. Who are the 3 people who contributed most to your decision to follow Jesus and your understanding of what that looks like? What did they do?



Look It Up

Matthew 28:16-20

- 5. Did it make you uncomfortable to hear someone say that Jesus rather than the Bible is our authority? If so, why? Why not?
- 6. What "commands" come to mind when you hear Jesus's instructions in verse 19 and 20?
- 7. What do you imagine the disciples were expecting as Jesus began this speech?
- 8. If Jesus had proven himself capable of defeating death, why didn't He conform to the disciples' expectations and conquer Rome, throwing out the occupying forces and setting up His own empire?

Putting It All Together

- 9. What steps can you take to foreground Jesus's final instructions in your daily life? How can you keep His last command front of mind this week?
- 10. Is any of your time or resources allocated to making more followers of Jesus or instructing his followers to obey him? Are you engaged in your King's business?
- 11. Part of the challenge in sharing the good news of Jesus involves discussing destructive habits, ideas, or cultural currents. How can you stay humble as you approach these kinds of issues? What does it look like to maintain your interpretation of Jesus's ethic in a culture that (rightfully) allows for a diversity of opinion on tough topics? What can you do to avoid an "I'm always right and non-believers have nothing to teach me" mentality?

