

I AM GP – Part 1
Community Group Discussion Guide
April 11, 2021

There is still a great stir over the resurrection and there are still only two choices – believe that Jesus rose from the dead or remain closed to the truth – denying it, ignoring it, or trying to explain it away.

After the crucifixion, they all lost faith. Obviously, he wasn't the Son of the living God. Obviously, there would be no gathering! Then Easter and the resurrection changed all of that. And a few weeks later, he gathered his followers together and said this....

***Read together: Matthew 28:16–20**

The resurrection of Jesus was quickly causing an uproar in Jerusalem. A group of women were moving throughout the streets looking for the disciples to inform them of the incredible news that Jesus was ALIVE!

Scripture Support:

v. 18; Jesus tells his disciples (followers) to make more disciples. He instructed them to continue to preach, teach, and baptize. Jesus commands them to do so with the same authority that he had; to tell others the Good News.

v. 18 – 20 are very significant as they are the last words of Jesus.

*Have you ever been in the presence of someone who is sharing their last words? If so, what did they share and how did it impact you or others who were present?

When someone is dying or leaving us, his or her last words are very important. Jesus left his disciples with these last words of instruction: they were under his authority, they were to make more disciples (followers), reminding them that He would be with them always. Their mission would now become “world-wide.”

We too, are to “go.” Whether it be next door, workplace, grocery store, or to another country and make disciples. In the words of Dr. Phil, “how’s that working out for you?”

Within weeks of the Easter events, The Jesus-gathering, the *church*, launched. For two years, things went pretty well. The disciples travelled 100 or so miles north and south, but then **the movement stopped moving, the gathering stopped growing.**

*Share some examples of how you are “moving” and “growing” as a follower of Jesus.

Instead of going into “all the world” the disciples stopped venturing too far from home. Persecution drove a few out. But they only went far enough to avoid persecution. And it appeared that the Jesus gathering, intended for everybody, would reach hardly anybody.

*As a disciple (follower) of Jesus, share an example of how you have been able to “venture out” and share this good news with others. (It’s ok to share an example, we know you will do so with great humility)

Take some time to discuss additional aspects of this week’s message. We are encouraging the people of GP, who are not engaged, to take a “next step.” You’ve taken this next step because you’re gathered together in a place with a group of people connecting relationally and growing spiritually. Incredible, keep at it!

You’ve come to know this is a great investment of your time, resources, relationships, and understand that this is not about “you” selfishly, it’s about “your faith” and the “faith of others.”

In closing, discuss what your mission might look like this week as you “go” into your world.

We are on a mission together! Thanks for being a part of it!

YOU ARE GP!