

CLEARING THE FOG

BELIEFS MATTER

"CLEARING THE FOG" WEEK 11 NOTES JULY 30

KEY THOUGHTS

- Clearing the fog is critically important because what was true without the fog is also true in it. Nothing changes from clear to foggy and light to dark. God doesn't change either.
- As people, all of us are commissioned – given the authority to perform certain tasks or responsibilities.
- Our original commissioning is in Genesis 1:28 – And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
- We are made to be on mission. God didn't have to "send them out to subdue and rule". But we are designed with a need to be on mission.
- Much has changed from the Old Covenant to the New, including our mission. We find Jesus' new mission for us in Matthew 28:18-20, called the Great Commission. 18 "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
- The similarities in these missions are fairly clear:
- Authority is bestowed by God. In both commissions, God has authority that is given to mankind.
- Called to grow. In Genesis we were told to be fruitful and multiply. In Matthew, Jesus tells us to make more disciples.
- Universal, or Worldwide. "Fill the earth" is the language of Genesis. "Of all the nations" is the wording in Matthew. We are to think well beyond ourselves and our immediate environment.
- And then this significant difference in the mission Jesus sent His followers on...
- Our standing. In Genesis we were to rule OVER, yet Jesus' way is different. Mark 10:44-45 reveals Jesus' "standing". The way of Jesus doesn't set us over, but under!
- What is our part?
- GO – the simple of "going" means this is no longer about us. We don't go on mission trips for ourselves, but for others.
- SHOW – serving and meeting the needs of others. Often, before we talk about

who Jesus is to us, it's very helpful and engaging if people SAW who Jesus is by what we do.

- SOW – sharing and speaking about what Jesus has done in our own lives.
- GROW – making disciples. Walking the way of Jesus takes work and time, and making disciples means helping people become students of the Master.

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 1:28
- Matthew 28:18-20
- Mark 10:44-45

Practical & Reflection

- Are my thoughts and actions about faith connected primarily to my own growth, or am I a part of the mission of "going to others"?
- After I leave a ministry event, do I evaluate primarily based on how much I "got out of it", or on how much I prayed it meant to others?
- What is my mission? Who is my mission?