

They Meet the Master-Week 1 The First Disciples

Intro

- If you found out you were going to meet your favorite musician, author, actor, artist, whatever, you're going to meet someone you look up to, someone who is a celebrity, what would you do? You'd probably go and tell someone about it right?
- When we meet someone you look up to, we get excited and tell people, we want them to know. Over the next several weeks we're going to look at the importance of sharing our faith with others.
- We're starting a series called "They Meet the Master." In this series we're going to look at stories where Jesus met with individuals and see how He shared the Gospel with them.
- We want to learn from the master and see how we can apply these lessons in sharing our faith with others around us.
- Before we get into our discussion today though I need to ask, why is it important that we share our faith?
- Check out what Jesus tells us in Matthew 28:18-20- **Have someone read passage**
- You'll discuss this passage a little more in small groups, but there is one thing I want to discuss.
- **What is a disciple?**
- **A disciple is someone who is following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus, who seeks to make disciples who make disciples.**
- Catch the end, a disciple is someone who makes other disciples, who in turn makes other disciples. **How do you make disciples?**
- You share your faith with them. This is called evangelism, evangelism is the first step in making disciples.
- So then sharing our faith, making disciples, is important because it is what a disciple of Jesus is supposed to do.

- We shouldn't just do it because we're supposed to, but also because we want to, because we love people- ***Bring up two great commandments and the Penn and Teller illustration***

This week's story-John 1:29-51

- Let's learn from the Master and see how He shared the Gospel.
- To do this, I want us to go back to the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Turn in your Bibles to John 1 and see how Jesus called the first of His disciples.
- Let's first look at a few verses- **John 1:29-42**
- John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin, and He started His ministry before Jesus. He had followers, but John began to tell his followers that the Messiah is coming.
- One day JTB sees Jesus and points out "Behold the Lamb of God." Immediately two disciples that were following John go up to Jesus.
- Jesus asks them, "What do you seek?"-- **What does Jesus' question tell us about ourselves and about sharing the Gospel?**
- Everybody is seeking answers, everybody is seeking something. Whether they realize it or not, we all want the answers to the questions of life. I believe everyone has this feeling deep down that there is something more.
- Some of us seek those answers in other ways--**What are ways people seek these answers?**
- Jesus knew that everyone is seeking something and so He asked them what they were seeking. They asked Him where are you staying? And He answered come and see.
- He wanted them to come and follow Him, and to see what He had for them.
- Andrew was very excited about meeting Jesus that He went and told his brother, Simon, and brought him to Jesus.
- Jesus gives Simon a nickname, Peter or Cephas.
- **Read John 1:43-51**
- The next day Jesus met Philip, He told Philip "Follow Me." - **What does this simple statement say about Jesus and His method of sharing the gospel?**

- It shares with us what He wants. He simply wants us to follow Him.
- **What does it mean to follow Jesus?**
- Philip does the same thing Andrew did and shares with his brother that he met Jesus. There's a neat little exchange that Philip, his brother, and Jesus have which you will discuss more in small groups, but we now have had two instances where Jesus has inspired someone to share their faith with others, specifically family.
- **Do you think this was intentional on Jesus' part?**

Take away-

Jesus' method of calling people to Him is a simple invitation to follow Him. Jesus simply wants us to follow Him, be changed by Him, and bring others to come and follow Him as well.