

"As You Go!"

- Opening Announcements
- Opening Prayer

Q: When you think about "witnessing" (in a Christian context), what comes to mind?

Q: What are some of the challenges of "witnessing"?

Q: What are some of the joys of "witnessing"?

Q: Why might it be important to be aware of the challenges and how to deal with them, but to emphasize the JOY of witnessing?

Q: IF you were the devil, how would you try and stop witnessing?

Table Time...

READ: Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Q: In the Greek grammar the word "Go" has this meaning: "as you go". There is a sense that its a continual motion. How does this help us understand the passage better?

Q: So given this idea that "as you go", "as you live your life", WHAT are we supposed to be focused on?

Q: How do we "make disciples"?

Q: What IS a "disciple"?

Q: What is the role of "baptizing" and "teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" in "making disciples"?

Q: What's the promise in verse 20? Why is THAT significant?

READ: Mark 16:15-16 "And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

Q: Here is Mark's version, what is similar? What is different? How does it enhance, clarify, help with the Matthew version?

Q: What is the promise and the warning in verse 16?

Q: Given verse 16's warning, what's at stake for the world?

READ: Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Q: In Luke's version of the "Great Commission", what's the emphasis here?

Q: How does the progression from "Jerusalem" to "the ends of the earth" teach us about "how" the Gospel "goes out"?

Q: How does this align with Matthew's version "as you go"?

Q: WHO is the power behind our witness? Why is THAT important to remember?

Big Group Debrief....

READ: John 21:24 "This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true."

Q: In John's closing statement in his Gospel account, how does he emphasize the "Great Commission"?

Q: How can YOUR testimony emphasize the Gospel?

Q: How has Jesus impacted your life? Share with the group.....

Wrap Up:

Q: How was sharing with the group this morning about "how Jesus has impacted your life", YOUR example of "witnessing"?

Q: How is telling YOUR story and your encounter with Jesus impactful to a world that has not seen and believed?

Q: How might "our witness" be presented in a way that helps others hear? (Attitude, sensitivity, wisdom, knowledge, etc.).

HOMEWORK:

Begin to pray about sharing your relationship with Jesus with someone who needs Him.