



### Be 1 Make 1

A Family of One: Matt. 28:16-20

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#### Announcements

- ❑ First-time guest (Tour 4)!
- ❑ Vision Sunday (Look back | Look ahead)

Four goals for this series:

1. Reach
2. Restore
3. Reproduce (Be 1 Make 1 booklet pic)
4. Release

(Albert Tate missing target pic)

When you hear the word family, what comes to mind? Our culture breaks the family up into categories:

- ❑ **Nuclear Family** – related by blood
- ❑ **Extended Family** – related by blood or marriage
- ❑ **Blended Family** – two existing families creating one
- ❑ **Single Parent Family** – one parent raising child(ren)
- ❑ **Grandparent Family** – grandparents raising their grandchildren.

- ❑ **Spiritual Family** – related by the blood of Jesus.

The Bible uses familial language to describe Jesus' relationship to the Father, the Bible says that they are One (John 1:1-4) and that Jesus is the only begotten Son of God (Heb. 1:1-4). **As believers, we're told that we, too, are members of this family:**

#### Romans 9:8

8 That is, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but the children of the promise are considered to be the offspring.

#### 1 John 3:1-2

See what great love the Father has given us that we should be called **God's children** — and we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it didn't know him. 2 Dear friends, **we are God's children now**, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he appears, we will be like him because we will see him as he is.

Jesus says something that's revolutionary to His family about His family:

#### Mark 3:3-35

33 He replied to **them**, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"  
34 Looking at those sitting in a circle around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does the will of God is **my brother and sister and mother.**"

This is a scandalous verse, right? To understand the severity and audacity of this statement, we need to know who the

“them” in verse 33 represent. When you read verse 31, you’ll find out the them is Jesus’ mother and brothers. So, Jesus just told his mother and brothers in front of people that people outside of His nuclear family is His family. (momma’s response) Either Jesus is being extremely disrespectful or He’s making an extreme point, we’re family!

One of the most misunderstood aspects of the church is that it’s a family. **One of our plumb lines is we’re not like a family, we are a family.** There are several reasons for the misunderstanding:

- ❑ **Mission Drift** – we focus on things that are ancillary to the central mission of the church. (target pic)
- ❑ **Lack of knowledge** – because it’s not emphasized, people treat His bride like its optional (Heb. 10:25).
- ❑ **Family of Origin Issues** – some people hear family and it scares them because of their family dynamics.
  - a. Absent – not there physically and/or emotionally
  - b. Abusive – physically, verbally, mentally
  - c. Apathy – resentful
- ❑ **Church Hurt/Spiritual Abuse** – older brothers (Luke 15:11-32) reject those who God pursues, this perpetuates the family of origin issues and in many ways the church ends up representing and in many cases perpetuating the **absenteeism, abuse and apathy** that many have experienced and they never experience the fullness of God’s family. **The church should be the safest place to talk about and heal from anything!** What impedes peoples healing process oftentimes is the response of Christian’s to those who are hurting.

The goal of Christianity is not perfection, it’s not a fight for perfection it’s a fight against isolation. – **Dhati Lewis**

### **John 13:35**

35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

**What does this mean?** Do I love you as long as we’re cool? Do I love you as long as we agree? Do I love you as long as you look and think like me? People will look at how we treat each other and determine if they want to join our family.

### **Gal. 6:2**

2 Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

**The point of discipleship is to bring people into God’s family, so people can live under the Father’s authority. What we call the world, is a family and shame on us if people experience more love in the world than the church.**

**A disciple is a follower of Christ that has responded to grace and displays ongoing repentance, belief, service and submission and teaches someone else to do the same.**

### **Thought Tattoo**

Discipleship isn’t a **profession**, it’s our **purpose!**

The church is the family where disciples are made and deployed. **The goal of discipleship is discipleship!** (discipleship = total transformation)

### Matthew 28:16

16 The eleven disciples traveled to **Galilee**, to the mountain where **Jesus had directed them**.

Oftentimes this verse is overlooked, but this is significant because of what Jesus said earlier and keep in mind **this is the only meeting He scheduled between His resurrection and His ascension:**

### Matt. 26:32

32 But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”

### Take Note...

God can be trusted.

In other words, Jesus knew of His resurrection. **How do we know this? By the content of His words and the fact that this was said before His crucifixion.** This means that what Jesus wanted to relay to His disciples was extremely important for them to hear and for us to read and apply. Think about the importance of discipleship if it's one of the first and last things that Jesus communicates before going to glory to take a seat at the right hand of the Father. **How could we take this lightly? How can you not do it?**

### Matt. 28:17

17 When they saw him, they worshiped, but some doubted.

### Take Note...

We're inviting people to worship and allowing them to doubt.

This is another verse that shows Jesus' deity, but that's not all that this verse reveals. They went from doubting the testimony of the women who saw Him, to worshipping Him, but when we think about discipleship through the lens of family because ultimately discipleship expands our family, **we must ask what are we allowed to do in this family?** Notice that while they fell at His feet some still had questions and doubts:

- Question of **reality** – is God real?
- Question of **reliability** – can the Bible be trusted?
- Question of **relevance** – does this apply to me?
- Question of **relationship** – does He really want me?

God isn't deterred by doubt and we shouldn't deter people because of their doubts.

### Matt. 28:18

18 Jesus **came near** and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

### Take Note...

Our family has a **present** father with loving authority.

Notice the bible says that Jesus **came near** (not deterred by your struggles and doubts), this addresses the reality that God is **imminent**; that means He's actively involved in our lives and please don't forget what we read in the previous verse,

verse 17 says “some doubted” Jesus came near to the worshipers and those with doubts. God is not just near you, He’s for you, even when you struggle trusting Him. **People teach us that when we mess up or don’t live up to their expectations that they’ll leave us** and sadly some of this abandonment based on not measuring up has been done to us by parents.

### Take Note...

Our family has a father with loving authority.

*Exousia*, meaning rightful, actual and unimpeded power to act, or to possess, control, use or dispose of, something or somebody. Whereas *dynamis* means physical power simply, *exousia* properly signifies power that is used in the lawful sense. Exousia stresses the rightfulness of power really held, or the reality of power rightfully possessed.

### Matt. 28:19-20

19 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 everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Discipleship involves several aspects (three participles Go | Baptize | Teach to achieve the imperative of disciple-making):

1. **Intentionality** – Go
2. **Discomfort** – don’t let your discomfort disqualify God.

3. **Diverse Family** – Jesus didn’t say some nations, He said all nations. Diversity isn’t racial and cultural; it’s all inclusive.
4. **Baptism in Christ** – baptism in this verse, isn’t primarily about water, it simply means we are identifying ourselves with the Triune nature of God. We belong to the Father, are saved by the Son, and indwelt by the Spirit. We are in the family of God!
5. **Investment** – teaching involves investing through instruction in the scriptures.
6. **All in Attitude** – salvation is free, but discipleship will cost you everything. That means you’re willing to give up anything and in some cases anyone that attempts to eclipse the glory of God in your life.

### 2 Timothy 2:2

2 What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

### Power Point