



spiritual infant

DISCIPLE ME

THE ONE ABOUT PURPOSE PART 2: GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES

DISCUSS:

- If you discovered you only had time to tell your spouse, kids, or family one important message, what would you want to make sure that they knew?
- Have you ever been given “parting advice, wisdom, or direction” from a parent, grandparent, mentor, or coach? If so, what advice did they give?

READ: THE GREAT COMMISSION

The Apostle Luke tells us that after His resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days with His friends and followers. During that time, He gave them many convincing proofs about His resurrection and taught them extensively about the Kingdom of God. (Acts 1:1-3) Jesus also told them that He would not be able to stay with them and that His leaving was actually a good thing for them, because after He left God would send His Holy Spirit to live in them. Much of this was confusing for His friends because after they watched Him die and then witnessed His resurrection, they couldn't imagine life without Him again.

But as Jesus promised, He wouldn't stay with them forever, and He saved one of His most important teachings for last. Before His departure, Jesus shared what many call “The Great Commission” with His disciples, giving them a mission and purpose and pointing them in the direction they should go after He was gone.

STUDY: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Read Matthew 28:16-18

- Verse 17 indicates that there were mixed opinions about Jesus at this point. Why do you think some might doubt seeing Jesus after His resurrection?
- What statement does Jesus make in verse 18?
- What do you think Jesus means when He says “all authority” has been given to Him?

Understanding that Jesus was speaking from a place of ultimate authority, read verses 19 and 20.

Read Matthew 28:19-20

- What does Jesus say His followers should do?

Hint: _____ and make _____ of all _____.

- What two tasks does Jesus associate with making disciples in this passage?
- Why do you think Baptism was an important part of making disciples?
- Why should those who've been baptized commit to learning and living all that Jesus taught?

READ: THE CHALLENGE OF MAKING DISCIPLES

Jesus' instructions to His followers in Matthew 28 are not unclear. The purpose of His disciples is to make more disciples. Every follower of Jesus is called to be a disciple-maker. Jesus invites and instructs those of us who have chosen to follow Him to make it our priority to help all kinds of people find and follow Him as well. The clarity of this mission is amazing, but the reality is that it's easier said than done.

If you are just beginning to follow Jesus, the idea of teaching others or discipling others can be pretty intimidating. But don't lose sight of the reality that the disciples had spent nearly three years learning from Jesus. They had been disciplined themselves over a period of time. Before Jesus left them, He was telling them that it was now time for them to disciple others. On top of that, Jesus promised that He would be with them as they began to disciple others. This promise is something that also extends to you.

DISCUSS

- How does it feel to know that when you're ready, God wants you to disciple someone else?
- What are some reasons that someone might choose Jesus for themselves but never disciple anyone else?

CHALLENGE:

- You may not be ready to disciple someone today, which is appropriate, but someday you will be ready. For your challenge this week, we want to invite you to add a new prayer to your prayer routine. Regularly begin to pray, "God, show me who I should disciple." When you get an answer to that prayer, make sure you share it with your Discipleship Partner(s).