

Kingdom Identity - Multiply

A disciple of Jesus Christ follows Him through daily transformation and active engagement in God's redemptive plan.



Adult LifeGroups

The Transformation for Adult LifeGroups

Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:4-8

January 26, 2020

TODAY'S TEXT—open your Bible, use a Bible app on your phone, or follow along below

Text: Matthew 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Acts 1:4-8

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with[a] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with[b] the Holy Spirit." ⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

FIRST THOUGHTS

We close our study of the identities of a disciple of Christ with looking at how we are to fulfill the mission Jesus has given us.

- Brainstorm a list of reasons people go to church and functions of the church, both appropriate and off base. Why does church have such a broad appeal to people?
- What is the most important reason for being a part of a church?
- What is the most important role of the church in the world?

The world needs to know who Jesus really is and what the benefits are of putting faith in Him. Jesus gave us—His disciples—the responsibility to make those truths known. God could have chosen to work in the world independent of His people, yet He chose to engage us in accomplishing His will. As disciples, we represent God to people who need to know and understand Him. The potential impact of obedience to that calling is world-changing.

EXPLORE THE TEXT

> **Have a volunteer read Matthew 28:16-20**

- What were the different commands that Jesus gave to His disciples? How do they all work together?
- What is the central command that Jesus gives His disciples? How are they to carry this out?
- Why was it important that Jesus closed the Great Commission, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (v. 20)?
- What does that statement mean to you? How is Jesus with us today? In our missionary efforts?

> **Have a volunteer read Acts 1:4-8**

- Why was the coming of the Holy Spirit essential to the disciples' obeying Jesus' Great Commission? How would the Spirit empower the disciples to carry out Jesus' mission?

- How does this help us understand the role of the Spirit in our lives today? Why is He important for the ongoing mission of the church?
- What does it mean to be Jesus' witness? What are we witnesses to? How can we be His witnesses today if we have never seen Him?
- Why are both our words and our actions essential parts of our witness for Christ? Are we witnesses if we never share our personal experiences with Jesus Christ? Why or why not?
- What is the significance of the places named in verse 8? Starting from where we are today, what places might correspond to Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria?
- Is every believer today to be a witness for Jesus? Is every believer to go to the ends of the earth? Explain.
- How can we help fulfill Jesus' command to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth even if we never travel beyond the borders of our nation?

After giving His disciples this command, Jesus ascended to heaven, and His earthly ministry came to an end. Jesus' first disciples did not do the work of evangelism and making disciples in their own strength. The Holy Spirit empowered them with courage, love, and joy. In the same way, He empowers us today.

SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE

What, in your opinion, are the main challenges or barriers that keep us from obeying and fulfilling the Great Commission today? What can you do to combat these issues?

What are a few easy ways you could be involved in your community for the purpose of engaging in God's redemptive plan?

Think about all the areas God has given you influence—it could include your home, your work, a hobby or interest, or another place—how could you use your influence in these areas to live on mission for Jesus?

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK

- Ask God to use your words, actions, and attitudes this week to be an influence for Him. Ask Him for a specific opportunity to share how He has impacted your life with an unbeliever. Ask Him for a specific opportunity to encourage another believer. Look for how He answers these prayers this week!
- Next week is SUPER SUNDAY! It's a great day to bring a friend to your LifeGroup. Who do you know at Chets that is not in a LifeGroup yet? Who do you know in your areas of influence (friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc) that is not in a LifeGroup?
- We will be looking at Jesus' encounter with 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus after his resurrection in Luke 24:13-35.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

26th — Exodus 14-16; Acts 2 | **27th** — Exodus 17-20; Acts 3 | **28th** — Exodus 21-22; Psalm 12; Acts 4 | **29th** — Exodus 23-24; Psalm 14; Acts 5 | **30th** — Exodus 25-27; Acts 6 | **31st** — Exodus 28-29; Acts 7 | **1st** — Exodus 30-32; Acts 8

Our Vision:

TO BE A CHURCH
FOR THE UNCHURCHED,
HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD.

Adult LifeGroups:

A GOSPEL-CENTERED COMMUNITY
THAT AIMS TO KNOW GOD TOGETHER
AND BE CHANGED BY HIM IN A WAY
THAT WILL CHANGE THE WORLD.