

WEEK 14: A Disciple Is On Mission

Let's spend a minute going around and sharing what God is showing or saying to you lately?

1. You are a disciple today because Jesus' disciples before you joined the mission given by Him nearly 2,000 years ago.

Matthew 28:18-20 ¹⁸ And Jesus came [after His resurrection] and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

What is the primary mission that Jesus has given us?

Participate in helping to make disciples which includes baptizing, and teaching them to obey all of Jesus' commands

In what ways are you participating in this "Great Commission" given by Jesus?

Open discussion: if needed help draw the connection between the example and disciple-making.

NOTE: This "Great Commission" applies to disciples beyond the original ones in Jesus' day. We do that because "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age", and we are still in that age.

2. Read and observe the progression:

Ephesians 2:1-10 ¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Summarize v.10 in your own words, and share how it relates to Matthew 28:18-20.

Walk in the good works God prepared beforehand.

These good works will support and help fulfill the Great Commission.

Why is it important to remember the progression from v.1-3 to v.4-9 to v.10?

It starts with God's loving work in us. That fuels us and that helps us do good in love.

3. Matthew 25:13-30 [Jesus said] ¹³ *Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour [when I will return].* ¹⁴ *For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.*

¹⁵ *To one he gave five talents [1 talent = 20 years wages of a day laborer (if \$15/hr, then 1 talent = \$600,000)], to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.*

¹⁶ *He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more.* ¹⁷ *So also he who had the two talents made two talents more.* ¹⁸ *But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.* ¹⁹

Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

²⁰ *And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.'*

²¹ *His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'*

²² *And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.'* ²³ *His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'*

²⁴ *He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed,* ²⁵ *so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'*

²⁶ *But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed?' ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.* ²⁸ *So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.*

²⁹ *For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.* ³⁰ *And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

What is Jesus saying to you through this parable?

4. How is Jesus calling you to participate in His mission in this season of your life?