

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

DISCIPLESHIP SERIES #1

Watch the video summary of the **February 1, 2015 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "The Master Plan of Discipleship." Please read the sermon passage (Matthew 28:16-20) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

1. **Since the resurrected Christ has been given all authority . . .** (16-18)
 - a. The disciples obey and worship him. (16-17)
 - b. He is the Son of Man (Daniel 7:13-14), and he always had this authority (Matt 11:27) but now this authority is fully unveiled for all to see. (18)
 - c. Jesus proved his authority in healings, calming storms, casting out demons, raising the dead and his own resurrection from the dead.
2. **those who follow him must teach people from every nation to follow him . . .** (19-20a)
 - a. Note the principles we learn from Jesus' example:
 - i. The discipler takes the initiative, inviting people to be "learners of Jesus" (disciples).
 - ii. There is day-by-day relational interaction that includes teaching, faith-building and exhortation.
 - iii. There's a defined body of information (learn and observe all that Christ commanded).
 - iv. There's an undefined process of teaching with an undefined span of time to do it in (it's messy!).
 - v. There's a requirement to address and overcome ethnic/racial barriers.
 - b. We make disciples as we are going, as we are baptizing and as we are teaching.
3. **and Christ will be with us as we do this to the end.** (20b)
 - a. This is not a "promise" (a future fact we are waiting on), it's a reality (all followers of Jesus have him by the presence of the Holy Spirit within us right now).
 - b. By the Holy Spirit, Christ reminds us of our mission, empowers the work, emboldens our witness, builds his church through our obedience, comforts us and forgives us when we confess our sin. He is with us!

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Jesus is the Son of Man (Daniel 7:13-14) and has been given all the authority in heaven and on earth. This is the fundamental difference between Christianity and every other way of life. Are you able to articulate this distinction in evangelistic conversations?
2. Based on #2, above: Jesus has all authority and has commanded that you make disciples in his name. First things first, have you been discipled? (Disciples are "learners" who have been taught and fully understand that Jesus is God, and is the Messiah--the only Christ from God--who takes away the sins of the world. They understand who is, what he did, and why it matters. Furthermore, they are learning to observe his commands.) What did your discipleship process look like? Who taught you of Jesus?
3. Based on #2, above: When teaching someone of Christ, where should one start?
4. Based on #2, above: What big fears do you have and how can we pray for you?
5. Based on #3, above: Christ is with you right now, and will remain with you day-by-day until the end. How does this truth exhort, challenge and comfort you?
6. Who have you discipled in the past? Who are you discipling now? Are you ready to prayerfully consider teaching someone of Christ?