

Pillars of Church Health – Effective Discipleship

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:19 HCSB)

Text: Matthew 28:16-20

South Orlando Baptist Church

Topics: Missions, Growth, Promises of Christ

April 6, 2014

Supplemental Text: See passages below

Bro. David Crowe

To become effective in making disciples of all nations, we must,

- 1) Endure in the knowledge of our Lord's _____ (vs. 18)
 - a. Jesus is the Sovereign Lord over all of creation. This statement is evidence of his deity.
 - b. God's word gives much light to the power Christ holds over all things (see John 1:3, Colossians 1:15-20).
 - c. This power over all things is with us and protects us as we obey the command to make disciples.

- 2) Encourage lifelong _____ (vs. 19-20a)
 - a. Christian discipleship *begins* with baptism.
 - i. Note how the sentence reads, “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” That this sentence uses the word “name” instead of “names” emphasizes the 3 in 1 unity of the Trinity.
 - b. Christian discipleship *continues* in lifelong obedience to observe everything Christ has commanded us.
 - c. Jesus taught his disciples from the Old Testament, and for us to apply this command today means that we must commit ourselves to learning the whole council of God's Word.

- 3) Experience His constant _____ (20)
 - a. Jesus will never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).
 - b. His presence has always encouraged the people of God throughout the Bible. The phrase “I will be with you” is a theme all throughout the Bible: Moses (Exodus 3:12); Gideon (Judges 6:16) Jeremiah (1:8).
 - c. We experience the joy of His presence every time we get involved in fulfilling His Great Commission.

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

- 1) Why did the disciples assemble on the specific mountain they chose? (28:16)
- 2) Who appeared to the disciples? When? (28:16-17)
- 3) What responses did Jesus' appearance elicit? (28:17)
- 4) What did Jesus say about Himself? (28:18)
- 5) Where did Jesus tell His disciples to go? (28:19)
- 6) What did Jesus tell His disciples to make? (28:19)
- 7) What activities were the disciples to be involved in? (28:19-20)
- 8) With what words of comfort did Jesus leave His disciples? (28:20)
- 9) What insight into the triune nature of God do you find in this passage?
- 10) Why do you think some of the disciples doubted when they saw Christ?
- 11) What causes Christians to doubt God today?
- 12) How do you think you might have reacted to the appearance of the risen Christ?
- 13) What does it mean to us that Jesus has "all authority"?
- 14) Over what does Jesus have all authority?
- 15) Over whom does Jesus have all authority?
- 16) What does it mean to "make disciples"?
- 17) What role do you have in making disciples?
- 18) How can knowing that Jesus is always with us make a difference in our daily lives?
- 19) What specific teaching of Christ do you need to obey more consistently?
- 20) What step can you take this week in the process of making disciples?