

October 2, 2022

Worship, Doubt, and Discipleship

Pastor Doug Hankins

Passage: Matthew 28:16-20

***16**Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. **17**And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. **18**And Jesus came 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.”*

Background

Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus gave His first followers a clear command – to make disciples of all nations. What is often lost in this “Great Commission” passage is the reaction of the disciples before Jesus even spoke. They worshipped and some doubted. Today, Pastor Doug Hankins will remind us that we ALL – even those of us who have some doubts – have a role and responsibility in carrying out Jesus’ call to take the Gospel to the nations.

Sermon Notes

Instructions

Since we believe we are BETTER TOGETHER, this discussion guide serves as a conversation guide with your small group. The “Belong” section offers an ‘ice-breaker’ or reflection question to start your time together. In the “Believe” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Our hope is to have meaningful conversations around God’s Word, not simply answer all the questions. Finally, the “Become” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life and to pray for one another.

Belong

- What is your favorite snack of all time? What makes it your favorite?

Believe

- What stood out to you the most in the message today? What was something *new* you learned about God, the Scripture, or yourself? What challenged you? What questions did the sermon raise in your mind? What was your biggest takeaway from the message?
- **Read Matthew 28:16-20.** What can we learn from the reaction of the disciples to seeing Jesus (vs. 17)? Why (or about what) would some have doubted in that moment? Why do you think Matthew includes this description? At what points do you find doubt and worship co-existing in your life? How are you obeying Jesus’ command to make disciples in your life now? In what ways is “making disciples” MORE than simply sharing the Gospel? According to this passage, what seems to be involved in “making disciples” (vs. 18-20)? What encouragement does Jesus give to his followers (then and now) so that we CAN obey His great commission? How does the Holy Spirit help us obey Jesus’ words?
- **Read Exodus 4:1-17.** What were Moses’ excuses for NOT initially following God’s call (one is in chapter 3)? How did he express his doubts in this passage specifically? How did God respond? What can we learn from God’s response to encourage us in our times of doubt? Where else in Scripture do we find people doubting God or being skeptical of God’s plan to use them to accomplish His purposes (**Consider: Abraham and Sarah, Gideon, Thomas**)? Did they have valid concerns or doubts? How did the Lord respond to their doubts? What can we learn from their story? How does their experience encourage you?
- We know God wants to use EVERY believer to help others follow Jesus. What are some of the doubts hindering you from doing what Jesus is asking of you right now? What is one characteristic of God we see in Scripture that can “answer” your doubt? What Scripture can encourage us to trust and obey Him more this week? What is one way God has uniquely gifted or positioned you to help other people follow Him? (If someone is unsure, ask the group if THEY see ways God can use that individual).

Become

- Who in your life right now is God calling you to share the Gospel or to disciple in the Gospel? What steps can you take this week to intentionally invest in their spiritual growth?
- **PRAYER POINTS:** How can we pray for one another this week? Pray for everyone affected by the hurricane. Pray for all those responding to the crisis. Pray for peace and needs met.