

February 13, 2022

We Are...

Pastor David Uth

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

In the second week of our series "We Are," Pastor David will walk us through some of the final words Jesus left his disciples before He ascended to heaven. Many of us are familiar with what is known as the Great Commission – the marching orders for all those who follow Jesus. Too often though, we have relegated Jesus' command to 'make disciples' as something for OTHER people to do. Our pray today is that each of us will not only embrace the call to follow Christ but also the command of Christ to lead other people to do the same. The mission of the church and the mission of each of our lives is to bring glory to the Father by helping others follow the Son through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Service Notes

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Instructions

This discussion guide is to help you facilitate a conversation with your small group. The “Getting Started” section serves as a quick opener and introduction to the group conversation. In the “Talk it Over” 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 “Live it Out” 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.

Getting Started

- How did God surprise you this week? What are you learning from God through His Word right now? Is there any way we can pray for one another?

Talk it Over

- What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word ‘disciple’? Was there someone in your life who intentionally helped you follow Jesus as a younger believer? How so? How does our local church help prepare us to be more like Jesus AND help others follow Jesus? If you helped turn from sin and trust in Jesus for the first time, what would your next steps be to help them grow as a new disciple?
- **Read Matthew 28:18-20.** How does Jesus describe His authority and what He has done with it? Why is this crucial for the mission? While the only command in the passage is to ‘make disciples,’ how does Jesus describe the way his followers should engage in this mission? The word “go” is better understood as “as you are going.” What does this mean practically? What should we be *doing* as we are ‘going’ into all the world? How are we uniquely positioned to reach ‘the nations’ here in central Florida? Why would ‘baptizing’ be important to making disciples? What role does being part of smaller group of believers play in the disciple-making process? How is ‘teaching them to obey’ more than just sharing information? How should this influence the way we live today?
- **Read Acts 1:1-8.** What does Jesus command his followers to BE in this passage? What is the catalyst for being a witness for Christ? What does this look like practically? How does this passage relate to the Great Commission in Matthew 28? What is significant about the locations Jesus mentions in the Acts passage? In what ways can you be a stronger witness to the grace of Jesus where you live, work, and play?

Live it Out

- What is the next best step you need to take to continue or begin making disciples? Who do you need share about Jesus with (as you are going), or show Jesus to (baptizing), or help shape to be like Jesus (teaching them to obey)? How can you do that this week?