



Sermon Discussion Guide

Preaching Passage: Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon Series: Foundations

Sermon Title: Our Mission

Date: January 13, 2019

Preacher: Bart Box

The Mission of CFC: *We exist to make disciples of Christ who love God and who love their neighbor.*

Discussion Questions:

- 1) In light of our building transition, it is likely that you now have new expectations of what CFC will do for our neighbors, or what we will offer to members. **[Q]** But how were you struck by the point that “far more important than what we expect from a church is what God expects from the church”?
 - a. Beyond that, Bart asked several questions:
 - i. What is a faithful church?
 - ii. What does a faithful church do?
 - iii. What does a faithful church look like and where does it focus and how does it function?
 - **[Q]** How might you answer any of those questions?
- 2) **[Q]** How often do you think of the authority of Jesus? Often you might think of the love of Jesus, or the kindness or patience of Jesus—but what about his authority?
 - a. **[Q]** How might regularly thinking on his authority spur us on in faithful disciple-making?
 - b. **[Q]** What other passages of Scripture could we think upon to make us more mindful of Jesus’ authority? (some suggestions could be Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Revelation 19:11-21)
- 3) **[Q]** In your own words, what is the goal of discipling? How did the sermon answer that question?
- 4) Bart talked about how the command of disciple-making is “a command that rests upon every single congregation” and “a command that requires participation by every single Christian.”
 - a. **[Q]** How are these distinctions inherently intertwined?
 - b. **[Q]** What errors might we fall into if we unnecessarily separate the corporate and individual responsibilities?

- 5) **[Q]** Do you ever find yourself thinking that your vocational calling is a distraction to your disciple-making? How were you challenged to see your vocational calling as integrated with your disciple-making, rather than a hindrance to it?
- 6) We emphasized that the disciples we make (as well as the disciples we are to be) are to love God and love their neighbor.
 - a. **[Q]** What things in your life stir your affections for God?
 - b. **[Q]** What things in your life stifle your affections for God?
 - c. **[Q]** What things in your life stir in you godly love for your neighbor?
 - d. **[Q]** What things in your life stifle godly love for your neighbor?
 - i. **[Q]** How might being mindful of these help you grow in rightly ordered loves?
- 7) Bart talked a lot about disciple-making being central to the life of the church and the life of the Christian. He closed with this quote from Craig Keener: "If many Christians today have lost a sense of Jesus' presence and purpose among them, it may be because they have lost sight of the mission their Lord has given them."
 - a. **[Q]** How does that quote strike you? Do you now, or have you at any time previously, felt that to be true in your life?
 - b. **[Q]** When Christ's presence feels peripheral, is that also the times in your life that his mission of disciple-making is not central in your living?

Final Application Question:

- 8) Bart asked the following question: "Can you point to people that you are helping to follow Jesus?"
 - a. **[Q]** So in your own disciple-making, who specifically could you take aim at?
 - i. Who is one church member (even Growth Group member) that you could intentionally help to follow Jesus?
 - ii. Who is one unbeliever that you could seek out to disciple to trust and follow Jesus?