



Go and Tell = Making Disciples

Matthew 28:16-20

Main Idea: To make disciples of Jesus in all nations, go and tell others about the gospel and the commands of Christ.

By faith, disciples of Jesus trust, obey, and worship the risen King (16-17).

Jesus commanded the women to go and tell the other disciples about his resurrection and his words. They went and did what he commanded, and Matthew recounted the story of what happened next. As Jesus had commanded, the disciples trusted and obeyed his command to go to Galilee. They went to the mountain that Jesus directed them to go to, and when they arrived, they experienced the faithfulness of the Lord in doing exactly what he said that he would do: He met them on the mountain, and they saw him there! This pattern is what the Lord had taught them in his time with them on earth. It prepared them – and us today – for the pattern of following Jesus once he left the earth to return to the Father. That pattern is simple: Trust him, and obey him. Many of the disciples that were in Galilee when Jesus appeared to them fell at his feet and worshiped their risen King. Jesus is God the Son, who conquered sin and death. Jesus is the one who fulfilled the law and prophets and all of the promises related to the death, burial, and resurrection of the Messiah. Yet, even in the very presence of the risen Lord, some of the disciples doubted. Faith is that way. It's not something that man can manufacture. It is a gift that the Lord gives (Eph. 2:8). So by God's grace by faith, disciples of Jesus trust, obey, and worship the risen King!

1. How are faith and trust related? Can you have faith in the Lord and not trust in the Lord? Why, or why not? How did the disciples display their faith in their trust in what Jesus told them to do? How do we do this today?
2. How is faith and obedience related? Can you have faith in the Lord and not obey the Lord? Why, or why not? How did the disciples display their faith to obey what Jesus told them to do? How do we do this today?
3. Why did they fall down and worship Jesus? What did they realize about the resurrected Jesus Christ? Assess your heart of worship. Are you compelled to worship by the presence of the Lord in your life and your time with him each day?
4. Some doubted? How could this be possible? What does this reveal about the sinful condition of the human heart?

In obedience, disciples of Jesus share the gospel and commands of Christ to make disciples of Jesus in every nation (18-20).

- *Disciples go and tell anywhere because Jesus has all authority everywhere (18).*
- *Disciples go and tell to make disciples, whom we baptize by God's authority and teach to obey God's Word (19-20a).*
- *Disciples go and tell in dependence on the Lord who is always with us (20b).*

Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus commanded the disciples to make disciples of all nations. This was the essential command, and connected to it were some key components of making disciples. First, the disciples were to go out on mission to make disciples. In all of our going,



disciples of Jesus Christ are expected to live on mission, telling others about the resurrected Savior and his words. Preceding this initial component of the command, Jesus declared the reality that he had all authority in heaven and on earth. Jesus is Lord, and this doesn't just apply to heaven. It doesn't just apply to the confines of a church family. It doesn't just apply to nations that identify with Christianity. It applies everywhere, which means that disciples can go and tell anywhere for the purpose of making disciples. Additionally, when disciples are made – wherever they are – there are two important things that must follow. First, disciples must be baptized. Baptism is into Christ, illustrating and proclaiming the very gospel of Jesus Christ that's been applied to the life of a believer. Through faith, that believer has died with Christ, been buried, and has been raised to new life in Jesus! Christ's death atones for their sin, and Christ's resurrection secures victory over sin and death and assures the gift of eternal life. Baptism is the public profession of faith in Jesus Christ that sets the direction of a believer's life to continue to go and tell others about Jesus. Second, disciples must teach new disciples to obey God's Word. A critical part of following Jesus is knowing him and imitating him in our lives. This happens through the work of the Spirit through the Word! We know what Jesus commanded and learn how to obey in order to observe all that he commanded. And all of this is possible by one important truth: The Lord is with us!

1. What does the authority of Jesus have to do with our ability to faithfully obey the command to make disciples of all nations? Have you ever struggled or worried whether you could or should share your faith? How does Jesus' authority address that struggle or worry?
2. Does your everyday life involve "going:" Going to work; going to school; going to the gym; going to the store; etc. More than ever, we live in a world that's on the go, don't we? Are you going on mission? What does it look like to go with a focus on making disciples?
3. From this passage, why is baptism so important? Why does Jesus command us to baptize in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit? Have you been baptized? If not, why not?
4. How do we teach others to observe all that Christ commanded? How did others do this in your life? How are you doing this in the lives of others? Why is the church so important in this work?
5. Do you believe that Jesus is always with his disciples? How is this possible? How have you experienced the reality of this truth in your life? Do you know someone who needs Jesus in their life? Go and tell!