

Foundations

Discipleship Rekindled

Connect Guide February 3 and 4

Take this paper and take the sermon home with you. Reflect on the passage and discussion questions. Consider how to apply the message to your life. Study alone or gather a group. This guide will enrich and encourage you on your path to discipleship and deepen your relationship with God

Scripture

Matthew 28:16-20 ... *Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*



Discuss

1. We all need footers – or foundations – for the soul. Our focus on Jesus; Scripture; Service and Theology can stabilize us in the swirling and hectic world we live in. But what about our discipleship? Are you a disciple? Does it matter?
2. The passage of scripture we are focusing on today is often referred to as the “Great Commission.” What’s so ‘great’ about it? What is a ‘commission’? Do you personally feel commissioned by God? Does it apply to some and not all?
3. A good bit of early church and United Methodist Church history was shared during the sermon. Why did the church grow so much in the early years? Why do you suppose we have seen a decline in the last 50 years or so?
4. Pastor Rich said, “Biblical discipleship is about disciples who make disciples...” Throughout your life, who has discipled you? In what ways? Have you been a disciple to another? If so, how? If not, why?
5. How important is it really to follow the command to “make disciples?” How does communion relate to discipleship?

Apply

Perhaps no other command is more central to the success of the church than: Make disciples. Perhaps no other command is less followed than this: Make disciples. A jog through church history will remind us of the power in obedience to this command and the impairment of disobedience to it. *Discipleship must be Rekindled.* If you are looking for a way to rekindle your discipleship, make plans to join Pastor John Ciampa for a Lenten Bible study beginning, Wednesday, February 21 meeting in the Sanctuary from 6:45-8:15pm.

Prayer

God, we confess following Jesus isn’t easy. We want to trust in you and build our foundation on the Truth that never fails. Help us to stay true to you God and read and know the Bible. Show us how and empower us now to serve you more effectively and efficiently. Help us to love those who don’t know you and lead them to you. Amen.