

“Behold”

Week 1 Devotional

As much as I enjoyed it, I'm glad the Multipliers series is over. Too much talk about math and numbers. After all, we're not supposed to be talking about numbers in church. We're supposed to be talking about “churchy” things like, how we can be happy, healthy, and wealthy or how we can make ourselves feel better by focusing on other people's sins, or how we are, or aren't, being fed by our church. But we're not supposed to be talking about numbers. After all, Jesus didn't care, or talk, about numbers, did He?

I'm afraid He did. In Matt 18 Jesus says, *“What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?”* In Luke 10 the writer tells us, *“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.* And again Luke in chapter 6 tells us *“In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles:”* And finally, in Matthew 28:19 Jesus tells us: *“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,…”* You're probably asking, where's the number? Well, at last check all is a pretty big number. And in terms of our mission (or great commission), that number is roughly 5.7 billion. That's the total population of earth minus the total number of Christians on the earth. That's a big number, a seemingly impossible number, that we have been called to reach. And each of these numbers are important to Jesus, so they should be important to us.

So how do we do it? How do we fulfill the “great commission”? It's easy to say, “one at a time”, but the realist in me says that ain't going to get it done. It's going to take more than simple addition; it's going to take multiplication on a grand scale. It's going to take people who are willing to become “multipliers”, that is, people who are willing to submit to the greatest “multiplier” in Jesus Christ and to his will and to his ways. So, as we move toward Easter takes some time to ponder what you can do to become a “multiplier”, to become an integral part of God's plan for the redemption of this world. Because you are God's “Plan A”, and there is no “Plan B.”