



The JESUS Centered Life

We **GO** intentionally to Multiply Disciples of Jesus



Opening prayer

Loving Lord Jesus, as we gather to grow in our understanding of your purposes for our lives, walk beside us as we go about our daily living. Help us in turn to walk beside those we invite to be fellow disciples of Jesus. Amen.

Translating from one language to another is a tricky business. It is sometimes difficult to keep all of the intentions of the person speaking or writing. Not only do the words have meaning, but the emphasis of some words over others also communicates meaning. Let's look at an English example. Speak this phrase and emphasize the bold-faced word.

I love you.

I **love** you.

I love **you**.

Emphasis counts.

READ Matthew 28:18-20

Without getting too technical, in the original Greek a more accurate translation would be "as you are going make disciples." How does that change the emphasis of the passage?

Think of some examples of people who have been given authority. In particular, what authority were they given and why were they given this authority?

Verse 18 says Jesus has been given authority. What is the extent of His authority? Who gave Jesus this authority? (See John 10:17-18)

Verse 19 and 20 tells us to MAKE DISCIPLES. What are we to do in order to accomplish that task?

Jesus's command, "teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you," implies an ongoing commitment to the people we make disciples. What do you think that ongoing commitment looks like?

Are we alone as we go about our task of making disciples? Give evidence for your answer from this Bible passage.

READ Luke 10:1-11

Verse 1 gives the purpose of Jesus appointing and sending out the seventy-two. What was their job?

Have you ever been cautioned against going somewhere alone? What was the reason for that caution?

What indication is there in this passage that similar circumstances apply here?

In light of your answer to the previous question, what might verse 4 mean?

Contrast the two possible receptions the pairs of followers might get when they enter a house or town.

In the Matthew text we talked about sticking with the people we bring to Jesus. Where is a similar sentiment expressed in this passage from Luke?

When we bring the news that Jesus is coming that news may not always be welcomed. What does this passage have to say about such rejection?

Later in this chapter Jesus tells His disciples not to take rejection personally. What does Luke 10:16 tell us about rejection we might experience when we share the good news of Jesus?

Continue reading **Luke 10:17-20**. Even though Jesus warned that rejection was a possibility, what do these verses tell us about how the seventy-two were generally received?

What did Jesus tell them to rejoice in?

Read **Acts 2:42-47**. We have looked at this passage several times. What does Luke say was the result for the early Church of living the life he described?

What do you think will result if we GO intentionally to multiply disciples for Jesus?

Lesson Summary

Who is this Jesus that tells us to GO about the business of making disciples? By what authority does He make such a command?

How do we know that we aren't alone in our journey to make disciples?

GATHER, GROW, GIVE, and GO Summary

For each word tell why it is important an important part of your faith life:

Gather -

Grow -

Give -

Go -

How are these four actions interdependent?

Take some time for personal reflection and private confession. Then pray the closing prayer.

Closing prayer

Loving God, you have placed me in a Christian community with whom I can gather. You have provided your Word and Christian friends that I may grow in my faith and in my knowledge of you. You have been generous with your gifts so I can generously share them with others. You have blessed me with faith and with personal experiences so that I may share your good news with others in the job you have given me to multiply disciples of Jesus. Thank you for these gifts. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may go about the work you have prepared for me secure in the knowledge that You go with me. In Jesus name, Amen.

Doxology (sing or recite as a group)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.