

"Making Disciples of All Nations--Part 1"

(Matthew 28:16-18a)

I. Our Mission

- A. It glorifies God when sinners are saved.
- B. Our motive is to glorify God.
- C. The mission that does that is to win men and women to the Savior.
- D. That is the pattern.
 - 1. God loved a lost world and sought to win it to Himself for His own glory.
 - 2. Christ came into the world, loved a lost world and sought to win it to Himself for the Father's glory.
 - 3. We are sent into the world to love the lost world, to seek to win the lost world for the glory of God the Father.

II. The Purpose of the Church

- A. Matthew chapter 28 verse 19, "Go ye therefore and make disciples."
- B. Now what is necessary for effective evangelism.
- C. First of all, let's look at availability.
 - 1. The greatest ability is availability.
 - 2. It doesn't matter how talented you are if you're not available.
 - 3. The disciples went into the specific mountain which Jesus had appointed.
 - 4. The command here given to go and make disciples of all nations is a command given to everybody, whether you're an apostle or not.
 - a. It fits all those who love and follow Jesus Christ.
 - b. They're not the greatest people in the world...
 - c. They're not the most capable or the most brilliant...
 - d. They're not the most experienced... but they are there.
 - 5. Because they were there, they were commissioned.
 - 6. Because they were there, they met Christ.
 - 7. Because they were there, they received a promise of presence and power.
- D. There's a 2nd principle...that is the attitude of worship that we see in verse 17. "And when they saw Him, they worshiped Him but some doubted."
 - 1. What kind of doubt was this?
 - 2. It's a group that's so large, 500 people, that not everybody's going to be in the front of the group.
 - a. Verse 18 it says, "And Jesus came nearer, or approaching."
 - b. That indicates the probable cause for their doubt was that Jesus appeared at a distance.
 - c. And it wasn't until He came near them and began to speak that those who doubted would have their doubts erased.
 - 3. When we worship the Lord Jesus we put ourselves in the place where we are available and we are able.

III. Conclusion

- A. So, where's your focus?
 - 1. Are you available?
 - 2. Are you a worshiper?
 - 3. Not just being in church on Sunday but your whole intent and purpose in life on Christ.
 - 4. Not only controlled by the Spirit but centered on the Word because the Word is where Christ is seen.
- B. There's a third one I just want to mention and it is submission.
 - 1. In verse 18, Jesus said, "All authority is given unto Me in heaven and earth."
 - 2. He meant, "I'm in control."
 - 3. And the reason He said that was to create in the mind of His disciples an attitude of submission.
 - 4. If He's in charge, we better listen, we better respond.