

OPENING QUESTION

If tomorrow was to be your last day on Planet Earth, what would you want to say to your family and closest friends before your departure?

READ TOGETHER

Matthew 28:16-20. These are some of Jesus' last words before His departure for heaven. Park yourself on these verses for a few minutes. Read them through as a group a couple of times. What's going on here? What is Jesus communicating to His disciples?

BIG IDEA

The mission Jesus gave us is to go and make disciples of all nations.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) What authority has been given to Jesus? From whom was it given? (see Ephesians 1:19-23)
- 2) Why is it important that Jesus begin by talking about authority? What is the connection between Christ's sovereignty and the command that Jesus gives His disciples?
- 3) What are the key elements of this "great commission" Jesus gives to His disciples? What does making disciples look like?
- 4) How does God feel about the nations that Jesus tells us to make disciples of in these verses? Have various group members read the following verses: Genesis 12:1-3; Psalm 67; Isaiah 11:9 and 49:6; Jonah 4:1-11; Revelation 5:6-10.
- 5) What promise(s), if any, does Jesus make to his disciples in these verses? In your mind, how are Jesus' commands and promises related?
- 6) Read Matthew 24:14 together. What is the tie between making disciples of every nation and the return of Christ? Why is our disciple-making important?
- 7) Consider the definition of a disciple we use at RockPointe. A disciple is someone who hears God's word, obeys it and teaches others to do the same. With that definition in mind, how do you see yourself in relationship to being a disciple?
- 8) What keeps you from involving yourself in making disciples? A lack of knowledge or time? Feelings of inadequacy or fear of what others will think? What keeps you from sharing your faith?

CHALLENGE

This week commit to leaning into living as a disciple. If the first step to being a disciple is to hear God's word in order to obey it, we all need to be in the Scriptures. What is your plan for getting into the Scriptures this week so you can lean into obeying what God tells you? If you do not have a plan, I suggest you begin in the gospel of Mark and simply read section that is outlined in your Bible and ask the questions: (1) What does this tell me about Jesus? (2) What does this passage reveal to me about how I should live as a disciple? Close your time with prayer asking God for helping and telling Him about areas in which you want to obey what He has taught you.



PRAYER

Take time to pray as a group about discipling. Pray for one another and for RockPointe as we seek to live out our identity as disciples as we gather for worship and as we scatter across Calgary to be a witness to Jesus. Pray for one another that the Holy Spirit would empower you for this.

NEXT STEPS

You can apply and take this teaching deeper into your life in two ways this week. First, you may appreciate a great summary of teaching on Matthew 28:18-20 that can be found at <http://www.desiringgod.org/labs/i-am-with-you-always>. As well, you may appreciate the teaching of John Piper on the relationship of missions (aka disciple making) and worship in a short video that can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tty5Npur-Vc>.