

Theme: Disciples are engaged in reaching the world, both locally and internationally, with the Gospel so that others may hear and respond to the Gospel.

I. Intro - Review

- A. Our series on discipleship here at BRCC - what a disciple looks like
- B. Disciples Embrace the Gospel of Grace - it all begins here; this is the fuel for everything else
- C. Disciples Love Our God - gather for worship weekly
- D. Disciples Connect With Others - build close relationships, especially via connect groups
- E. Disciples Serve His Church - we come to serve one another and our guests, not be consumers
- F. Disciples Reach the World - propelled out to reach the lost, personally and as a church

II. Disciples Are Propelled To Reach the World

- A. Go - don't sit and wait for them to come
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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28:19–20
 - 1. Jesus does not envision us sitting and hoping they will come
 - 2. Disciples are proactive and intentional about reaching the lost world with the Gospel of God's grace.

- B. All nations - from my family to the farthest people
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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28:19–20
 - 1. This is about more than foreign missions; it is a call to every disciple of Christ to actively seek to spread the Good News.
 - 2. This begins at home and spreads out everywhere
But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8
 - a. We begin locally and spread out around the world
 - b. Disciples begin reaching out at home, to spouses and children who are not yet believers.
 - c. We then reach out to neighbors, coworkers, and people who live near us.
 - d. We then move out until we are reaching out to the ends of the earth.
 - e. This is why BRCC is on mission here in Annapolis and around the globe.
- C. We begin by evangelizing those who do not believe
 - 1. The process begins with outreach to the lost, since one can not be a disciple until they first are a Christian!
 - 2. This includes both mercy ministry and evangelism

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Luke 4:18

- a. Jesus came to preach and do mercy ministry
- b. Disciples follow in His footsteps and do both - caring for practical needs AND preaching the Gospel
- c. It is not either-or but both-and!

3. Disciples are proactive in ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of this lost, broken, and suffering world.

D. Make disciples - not just converts

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, ²⁰ and **teaching** them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19–20

1. The verb is not 'go' but 'make disciples'
2. The process of discipleship includes **baptism** and **teaching**
 - a. Baptism is the first step of obedient faith. If you have not been baptized - do not delay!
 - b. We teach all God has commanded in His Word so that converts become disciples - followers of Jesus actively engaged in His mission.
3. The goal in reaching the world is not just to get converts but more full-fledged obedient disciples who will love, connect, serve, and reach.

III. How We Reach the World

A. We reach the world together

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, ²⁰ and **teaching** them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with **you** always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19–20

1. All of the verbs are plural - this is a corporate commission
2. The promise of Jesus' Presence is to us as a group
3. This also follows the example of Jesus in sending out disciples 2 by 2 to evangelize
4. Our congregation has many ways you can be part of reaching out:
 - a. Serving as a Sunday greeter or on hospitality team
 - b. Winter Relief, Easter Egg Hunt and family festival, and County Fair Booth

B. We reach out to the world individually

1. Each of us must also reach out to those around us
2. God has you on mission right where you are:
 - a. Family
 - b. Work
 - c. Neighbors
 - d. Divine appointments

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; **make the most of every opportunity.** ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:5–6

1. Make the most of opportunities - kairos moments
 2. Pray for God to open doors, and look!
 3. You have Good News - our sins can be forgiven, our broken lives and world healed!
3. Every disciple of Christ should be actively looking for opportunities to share the Good News of what Christ has done!
4. This includes everything from a simple invitation to come to church with you, to offering to pray, to sharing the Gospel of Who Christ is and what He has done.

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Am I growing as a disciple of Christ?
1. Have I embraced the Gospel of grace?
 2. Am I growing strong in God's grace personally?
 3. Am I loving our God by regularly participating in corporate worship?
 4. Am I connecting with others, especially via a connect group?
 5. Am I actively using my gifts to serve His church?
 6. Am I on mission to reach the lost?
 7. This is how discipleship in action looks! And it is a never-ending cycle powered by grace!

B. Water baptism of Josh and Owen Hicks

1. We make disciples in the next generation too!
2. Parents - take this task with utmost seriousness!
3. If you have never been baptized - see me!

Disciples Reach the World

Matthew 28:19-20
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Water Baptism
Psalm 67:1-2

Teaching keywords: Discipleship; evangelism and missions; mercy and mercy ministry

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, ² that his ways may be known on earth, his salvation among all nations. Psalm 67:1–2

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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
Matthew 28:19–20