

Theme: We have been commissioned and empowered by God to go forth and make disciples, baptizing and teaching them the fullness of the faith.

I. Intro – 3 Graduation/Commencements

- A. Tim, Jeremy, Steph all graduated this spring
- B. Graduations also called commencements
- C. Points to new phase of life at end of old one
- D. This is similar to Matthew 28
- E. End of Jesus' earthly ministry with disciples
- F. What is His call for His followers now?

II. Basis for the Commission: Jesus' Authority

- A. Jesus: I have been given all authority (v18)
 - 1. The key issue - authority
 - 2. The extent - universal - all; heaven and earth
 - 3. The source - God the Father - has been given
- B. The new era of history and Jesus' authority
 - 1. Jesus is now resurrected - new authority
 - 2. Fulfillment of Daniel 7:13-14; Isaiah 9:6-7

III. The Commission: Make Disciples

- A. The call to make disciples (v19-20a)
 - 1. The relation to v18 - 'therefore'
 - 2. The command - make disciples (v19)

- 3. Subordinate actions - go, baptize, teach
- 4. The scope - all nations; note 'go' (v19)
- 5. Scope - all people groups - Dan 7:13-14 (Rev 7)
- 6. Goal - disciple - learner, follower, worshipper
- B. The process - baptize and teach (v19-20a)
 - 1. Baptize - initiate into faith
 - 2. Note specific faith - Trinitarian
 - 3. Baptism universal start to disciples life!
 - 4. Must then teach the baptized
 - 5. Extent - teach all I commanded
 - 6. Goal - obedience (& knowledge)
 - 7. Discipleship requires instruction & formation
- C. The promise - His empowering Presence (v20)
 - 1. I am - not will be - with you
 - 2. Think of reassurance to 11 lonely disciples!
 - a. Israel had failed miserably in her call
 - b. They had been cowards and dullards
 - c. The scope is now all nations!!!
 - d. Only hope is His empowering Presence
- 3. Bookend - Immanuel - God with us (1:23)

IV. Applying the Word

A. Are we disciples of Jesus?

1. Do we recognize His unlimited authority?
2. Do I recognize His Lordship over me?
3. Have I been baptized in water? Mandatory!
4. Am I continuing to learn His commands?
5. Am I obeying His commands?

B. Are we making disciples of others?

1. Are we involved in Gospel going forth to all nations?
2. Do we give, pray, and go?
3. Are we involved in discipleship here at home?
 - a. Do we share Gospel with others so they can become disciples?
 - b. Do we teach others in church - small group, kids, etc.
 - c. Are we discipling at home? - battle won or lost here

C. Remember Immanuel - He is with you to do this!

Commissioned By God

Matthew 28:18-20

Isaiah 9:1-7

June 28, 2009

Numbers 6:24-26

In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into His presence. 14 He was given authority, glory, and sovereign power; all peoples, nations, and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.
Daniel 7:13-14

6For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.
Isaiah 9:6-7