

Series Sermon-based Growth Group Questions
January 3, 202
One Gospel

Introductory Discussion:

What insight from Sunday's sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Discussion:

Read Matthew 28:18-20:

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

1. What is a Christian's purpose for remaining on Earth?
 - a. Do we have any other purposes?

2. What two promises does he give us at the beginning and end of this passage?
 - a. How should those promises sustain you in your mission?

3. If we are not making disciples, why are we here?

4. Bethany's mission statement is "At Bethany, we desire to glorify God and see people transformed into passionate disciples of Jesus." What does it mean to desire?

5. If you say you desire something, but don't actually do something about it, do you truly desire it?
 - a. How can you get to a place where you actually desire this (that it comes from within you)?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20: Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. (18)Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, (19)namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, counting their wrongdoings against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. (20)Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (21)He made Him who knew no sin to be sin in our behalf, so

that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

6. What is our ministry according to verse 18?
 - a. Specifically, who should we be reconciling to whom (verse 19)?

7. Why should Jesus's work to reconcile us cause us to want to reconcile others to Him?

8. What does it mean to be an ambassador?
 - a. How must an ambassador behave when not speaking on behalf of the one they represent?

9. An ambassador does not live in his home country. Jeff also used the word "sojourners." How does understanding this affect how you understand your relationship to the world?

10. Why do people need the gospel? Try to be as specific as you can.

11. Who in your life can you be praying for?

12. What is your 15 second testimony?
 - a. 2 words to describe your past life.

 - b. 2 words to describe how you came to believe

 - c. 2 words to describe your new life