

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for November 13, 1988

Making Disciples
Part 1
Matthew 28:16-20
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Is the mission of the church Bible teaching, fellowship, family activities, praise and worship?

The Purpose of the Church: To Glorify God (**Ephesians 1:5-14**)

The Mission of the Church: To Make Disciples (**Matthew 28:16-20**)

How can we presently best bring glory to God?

We can best bring glory to God by fulfilling the mission and task given to us by God.

Why is glory and mission linked so closely?

Hebrews 2:9-10, it is fitting for the Creator to bring many to salvation in order to perfect God (not “perfect” in the sense of His holiness but in the sense of the revelation of Himself upon earth). The cross of Christ reveals God perfectly (**Revelation 5:9**). Just as Jesus was sent into the world to seek and to save the lost (**Luke 19:10**), so we are sent also (**John 17:18**).

How can we best glorify Christ?

We can best glorify Christ by completing His work of seeking and saving that which is lost. We will enjoy greater praise, fellowship and knowledge in heaven but the task of disciple making cannot be done in heaven.

Four Necessary Ingredients for Disciple Making

1. Availability (**Matthew 28:16**)

In **Matthew 26:32**, **28:7** and **28:10** the disciples are instructed to go to Galilee, where Christ’s public ministry was focused.

The “eleven” (**verse 16**) does not include the women who were told to go to Galilee as well (**Matthew 28:7**). Other disciples were probably in Galilee as well (**1 Corinthians 15:6-7**).

They were all available and proceeded to Galilee. If we do not perceive the importance of the task of the church we will not be available to be free from entanglements to serve Christ. People work so hard in pursuing possessions, careers, marriages, etc. It is no wonder that the task remains uncompleted. The American church cannot say as Isaiah did, "Here am I, send me!" (**Isaiah 6:8**).

2. Worship (**Matthew 28:17**)

Worship is simply presenting ourselves to God (**Romans 12:1**). The disciples fell down and presented themselves to God. Can there be any other response by the end of the Gospel of Matthew but to bow down in worship?

"Some were doubtful" (**verse 17**). Before **verse 18** Jesus was still at a distance and He came up to them in **verse 18**.

Chronologically it is really worship first and then availability follows. We must worship God and our response is seen in our availability. If we find ourselves unavailable we must be concerned with our worship.