

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 5, 2008

The Mission of the Church
Matthew 28:18-20
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Understanding how the Lord would have us to respond to the prospect of Proposition 8 not passing requires that we know three different things.

The church needs to know the real problem that we are facing in respect to the world.

The real problem facing the church today is that the world is spiritually dead and under the control of Satan (Ephesians 2:1-2).

We need to know God's solution in respect to the problem that we are facing in this world.

God's solution for the world's spiritual deadness and Satanic control is the gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16).

We need to know why we are here.

We are here to make disciples (Matthew 28:16-20).

If we are going to be an effective disciple maker we must be characterized by the right attitude (Matthew 28:16-17).

Those who want to be an effective disciple maker must be wholeheartedly available to Christ.

Those who want to be an effective disciple maker must not only be characterized by a right attitude but by right actions.

There are three specific actions that must characterize the life of an effective disciple maker based on Matthew 28:19-20.

The first action that must characterize the life of an effective disciple maker is that they are going into the world with the specific intent of making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19).

Individuals become disciples when, after hearing the gospel message and desiring to be set free from sin and its consequences, choose as an expression of their faith to embrace Christ as their Lord and Savior.

The second action that must characterize the life of an effective disciple maker is making sure that those who have become disciples of Christ are baptized (Matthew 28:19).

The word “baptize” (BAPTIZO) means to immerse or dip in water.

Baptism is important because it publicly separates us out as a follower of Christ and provides us the opportunity by our immersion into water to visually picture our spiritually immersion into Christ (Romans 6:1-7).

The third action that must characterize the life of an effective disciple maker is making sure that those who have become disciples are taught to observe all that Christ has commanded (Matthew 28:20).

May God give us the grace to wholeheartedly commit ourselves to the work of making disciples.