

MAKING DISCIPLES (7)

2018-10-21

MATTHEW 28:18-20 “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.”

- *Recap: last we spoke about the significance of making disciples and whether or not it's of any lasting importance.*
- This week we'll discuss the power that witnessing has, and the role that Christians have in the salvation of others.
- Every person has personal responsibility for their confession of faith in Christ for salvation, however there is still a responsibility upon every Christian to make disciples.

The Ministry of the Watchman(Ezekiel 3:16-19, 33:2,6-7)

- The watchmen had a responsibility to look out far ahead and warn the folks within the city walls of approaching danger

EZEKIEL 3:16-19 16 “Now it came to pass at the end of seven days that the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 17 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: 18 When I say to the wicked, “You shall surely die,’ and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. 19 Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.”

- The purpose of the watchmen is not to point fingers but to warn in love because God wants everybody saved and has no delight in there death of the wicked:

EZEKIEL 33:11 Say to them: “As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’

2 PETER 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

JAMES 5:20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins

- Regardless of your theology of whether this battle (Rev.12:10-11) has or will still occur, consider this principle of a believer's testimony:

REVELATION 12:10-11 “Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And ***they*** (*accused brethren*) overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.”

The First Words of Jesus' ministry

MATTHEW 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "**Repent**, for the **kingdom of heaven** is at hand.

- Notice the action of repentance required, as well as the beautiful promise of the Kingdom.

MARK 1:15 "**The time is fulfilled**, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel

- Notice the urgency of God's timing.

LUKE 2:49 And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about **My Father's business**?"

- Notice what there Father's business is about

- John the Baptist sets the example for us to follow Jesus:

JOHN 1:35-39 "Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. 36 And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "**Behold the Lamb of God!**"

- Behold: recognizing that Jesus is The anointed one (see JOHN 1:29-33)

37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?"

They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?"

39 He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and **remained with Him** that day (now it was about the tenth hour)"

CARE GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Can we in any way be responsible for the salvation of another person? Explain your answer.
2. What responsibility does the believer have, in light of Ezekiel 3:16-19?
3. What power does witnessing have in terms of Revelation 12:10-11?