

## Our Final Assignment

Text : **Matthew 28: 17-20 ; John 17: 7-21**

**S#1.**  
**S#2.**

**A. Historically, man has always displayed a rebellious disposition.**

1. We tend to seek what we want above what God wants or requires.
2. This attitude is often displayed in the attitude of children toward their parents.
3. It was what led the first couple to sin against God's instruction in the garden.

**B. Just as with Adam and Eve, when we seek out our own way, we sever our relationship with our creator.**

1. The wages ( *result, consequences* ) of sin is death ( *separation from God* ).
2. Jesus, our sinless Savior, sacrificed Himself to provide mankind with a way to re-establish his severed fellowship with God.

**C. Man in no way deserves the renewal of that relationship with God.**

1. The sacrifice of Jesus was a unilateral action by God.
2. Thus, it was a gift given by God to any who would receive it.
3. This offer of amnesty, of reunion with God, is a grace extended to man.

**D. There is a vehicle, a conduit, by which grace is communicated .. faith.**

**S#3.**

1. Grace is given, but faith must be developed.
2. Faith is the fruit of a positive response to knowledge.

**Rom. 10: 17** – So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

**E. Faith is more than simply believing the message about Jesus.**

1. **James 2: 18** – But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works." **19** You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. **20** But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?

**S#4.**

2. James is expanding on the teaching of Jesus.

**Matt. 7: 21** – Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. **22** " Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' **23** "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; Depart from Me; you who practice lawlessness.'

**S#5.**

**F. The faith by which grace is communicated involves the total surrender of one's own will to God to the point one lives in obedience to His Christ.**

**S#6.**

1. Jesus affirmed that surrender is necessary when He said,

**Mark 8: 34** – And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. **35** "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. **36** For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? **37** For what will a man give in exchange for his soul? **38** For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

2. Jesus exemplified this attitude in His own life.

**Luke 22: 42** – He knelt down and began to pray, **42** saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done."

3. The Apostle Paul lived and taught this attitude.

**Gal. 2: 20** – .. so that I might live to God. **20** "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who

- \* 4. *Faith is a condition of heart that takes control of one's life.*

#### G. When faith takes control of one's heart, it produces specific fruit in life.

1. **James 2** ... Faith can be observed in one's lifestyle.

2. We are saved by grace through faith **so that** we will actively serve God.

**Eph. 2: 8** – For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; **9** not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. **10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

- a. Works without faith will no more save than faith without works.

- b. The faith brings the grace that saves and also motivates lifestyle.

**II Thes. 1: 11** – To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, **12** so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### H. Some specific actions are required of those who are saved by faith.

1. **Eph. 2: 10** ... When one is created in Christ he is expected to perform works.

2. Those who have been saved were saved specifically to be advocates for Christ.

**I Pet. 2: 9** – But you are A chosen race, A royal priesthood,, A holy nation, A people for God's own possession, **so that** you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

3. The last assignment that Jesus gave to those who follow Him was to evangelize.

**Matt. 28: 18** – When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were **S#12.**  
doubtful. **18** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, " All  
 authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** " Go  
therefore and make disciples of all the nations, ...

Since our final assignment from Jesus was to "Make disciples" let's **S#13.**  
 examine what it takes to accomplish it. There must be :

1. A message
2. A messenger
3. A mission field
4. A strategy

## **I. What is the message that makes disciples ?** **S#14.**

### **A. Salvation is by faith and faith comes from hearing the word.**

1. Jesus made disciples by giving the words of God convincingly.  
**John 17: 8** – for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and **S#15.**  
they received them and truly understood that I came forth  
 from You, and they believed that You sent Me.
2. After His followers received the word of God, they were expected to repeat it.  
**John 17: 20** – do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who  
believe in Me through their word; **21** that they may all be one;

### **B. We must start off with portions of the word that lead to salvation.**

1. All of the scripture come from God, but not all are written to create faith.  
**II Tim. 4: 20** – Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at  
 Miletus. **21** Make every effort to come before winter.
2. Likewise, discussions of other doctrines are not fruitful unless about salvation.
3. Don't get sucked in; no other doctrine matters until one is IN Christ.

### **C. The word that makes disciples must include.** **S#16.**

1. Who Jesus is ... The only begotten son of God ... 100% God/100% man
2. What Jesus did ... Sinless life, totally obedient, vicarious death, resurrection
3. What Jesus offers ... Himself as our Savior, Forgiveness, Eternal life with God
4. What Jesus requires ... Submission, repentance & Faith, Confess Him to others

### **D. I Cor. 15: 1-7 ... All of these must be communicated just as the Apostle Paul did.**

### **E. Choose a method; these can be communicated in many ways.**

**II. God's message must be carried by devoted messengers.****S#17.****A. The absence of messengers grieved Jesus.****S#18.**

**Matt. 9: 37** – Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. **38** Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

**B. All who Jesus calls are call SO THAT they can be proclaimers for Him,****S#19.**

**I Pet. 2: 9** – But you are A chosen race, A royal priesthood,, A holy nation,  
A people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

**C. All who Jesus calls out of the world, He sends them back into the world.****S#20.**

**John 17: 14** – I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **15** I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **17** Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. **18** As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

**III. Each messenger must spread the message on his own mission field.****S#21.****A. The making of disciples is to be our manner of life.**

1. **Matt. 28: 19** – Therefore, as you go, disciple people in all nations (ISV)
  - a. The imperative commandment is disciple people.
  - b. "As you go" translates { *poreuō* } meaning "to continue on one's journey"
2. **Thus**, *while you're on the journey of life, make disciple wherever you go.*

**B. This was the lifestyle of the Christians in the N.T. For example :****S#22.**

1. **Acts 8: 1, 4** – And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ... **4** Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.
2. They were running in fear of their life, but made disciples along the way.

**C. Our mission field is wherever we happen to be at the time.****S#23.**

1. Jesus does not want for us to be isolated from the world, but to be leaven.
  - a. We must be cautious not to be absorbed by the world, but not be monastic.
  - b. **I John 2: 15** – Do not love the world nor the things in the world.

2. Our lifestyle sets us apart even while we are among people of the world.  
**John 17: 14** – I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them,  
because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
3. As missionaries on planet earth, we must not go native.

**D. Our mission field is composed of all we come in contact with.**

1. Co-workers ... “Be wise as serpents”
2. Friends and neighbors ... Do I love my relationship more than their soul ?
3. Family members ... Do you love them enough to rescue them from Hell ?

**IV. We must have a strategy for reaching the lost.**

**S#24.**

**A. We must develop our faith to the point that we must speak.**

1. We must develop the attitude of the prophet. **S#25.**  
**Jer. 20: 9** – But if I say, "I will not remember Him or speak anymore in His name,  
Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire shut up in my bones;  
and I am weary of holding it in, and I cannot endure it."
2. Our attitude must be like that of the Apostles. **S#26.**  
**Acts 4: 19** – But Peter and John answered and said to them, " Whether it is right  
in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the  
judge; **20** for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."

**B. We must practice to be able to deliver the gospel message well.**

**S#27.**

1. A righteous life gives credibility to one's message, but it is not a message.
  - a. You cannot persuade one to accept what you do not accept.
  - b. *A perfume salesman must not smell bad.*
2. No one will be saved who does not know God, know the gospel and obey it. **S#28.**  
**II Thes. 1: 7** – and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when  
the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in  
flaming fire, **8** dealing out retribution to those who do not know God  
and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** These  
will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of  
the Lord and from the glory of His power.
3. Salvation is by grace through faith and faith is a positive response to the word.  
**Rom. 10: 17** – So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
4. We must teach Who Jesus is, what He did, what He offers and what He requires.
5. If you are a Christian, if you are saved, you know all of that and can share it.

6. Thus, all that remains is the practice until we are ready to share.

**S#29.**

**I Pet. 3: 15** – but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; **16** and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.

**C. Implement your plan to develop your mission field.**

**S#30.**

1. Our farmers know which fields they will plant with corn or beans, fertilize, etc.
2. Cultivate your mission field.
  - a. Make contacts specifically for the purpose of evangelizing.
  - b. Get to know them well enough to talk about spiritual things.
3. Begin to introduce spiritual topics to friends and family.

**D. Make a lesson plan for your campaign.**

1. Don't wing it or snipe as opportunities arise.
2. Plan baby steps for long term contact .. not dump on someone all at once.

**CONCLUSION :**

- A. As servants of the Most High God we live to accomplish His purposes.
- B. His final instructions were to develop a lifestyle of making disciples.
- C. The Christian views every interaction with an outsider as an opportunity. **S#31.**

**Col. 4: 5** – Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. **6** Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.
- D. Do we have the attitude of Jesus “I must be about my father's business.”

**INVITATION :**

God's goal is the salvation of souls.

Have you accepted the gift of God ?

Are you sharing it ?

**S#32.** ... Communion slide

**Lesson Text :****Matthew 28: 17-20**

**17** When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. **18** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

**John 17: 7-21**

**7** Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You; **8** for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me. **9** I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours; **10** and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. **11** I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. **12** While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.

**13** "But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. **14** I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **15** I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **17** Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. **18** As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. **19** For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

**20** "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; **21** that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.