

SERMON

9/3/2020

For You and Our Joy: Discipleship

Summary:

Have you ever been misled? Our goal should always be to lead others to Christ! Furthermore, is discipleship a command or a suggestion? This question begs us to go deeper to find out.

As we are Christians, we are called to make disciples. This should already motivate you to live Christ and point others to Him. In the sermon, he starts in Philippians 1:18 where Paul is in prison and writing letters to the church. Paul starts in vs 19 saying, “although we may have hardships, but through prayers can be used for his deliverance.” In verse 21, “for me to live is Christ, but to die is gain.” Yes, to die is gain, but so many of us want to have such life-altering experiences for our own gain. Even though dying is gain, Paul understood why he needed to breathe. Paul longs to be like Christ and live like Christ. In vs 24, “to remain in the flesh is necessary on your account.” This should already move you to go after people just as Jesus calls us to make disciples so that they may live for Christ as well.

1 John 1:1-5

John was there. He saw, lived, loved Jesus. He was able to experience Jesus in a way like most of us Christians desire to experience Jesus. As John saw Jesus, he began to feel important because Jesus was important. In verse 4, “we are writing these things so that joy may be complete.” The bible is written so that we may not only get to experience Jesus, but we also can experience joy in that as well. When we’ve been with Jesus, we, too, can observe the greatness/importance of God and then desire to share that significance with others.

Matthew 28:16

The Great Commission

This right here already lays out the foundation of how to make disciples and to love Jesus well. Verse 19 “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them of all I have commanded you.” This may sound easy on paper, but it can be hard sometimes to live out. But, if we love Jesus unconditionally, we have the ability to love and make disciples well. Most of us are familiar with the word baptize. We need to keep in mind

what baptize means: to immerse. We are not called to make converts. We are called to immerse others in the Father, immerse others in the Son, and immerse others in the Holy Spirit.

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Questions for Going Deeper:

Do you see others more significant than yourself?

Do I outwardly demonstrate my love for Jesus?

How have you experienced Jesus with other people? Have you had an opportunity to share Jesus with someone?

Am I willing to lose to gain Jesus?

How do you fully live like Christ (radically live for Him) and what does that look like?

Am I using my gifts/talents for the benefit of pointing others to Christ? Am I causing a spiritual return with my children in my own home? Does Jesus make you feel important? How so?

What do you have joy in? Does Jesus give you joy? How do you have complete joy?

Would you agree that the greatest story ever told should captivate us and move us to act? Why?

Do you doubt Jesus and His works?

How have you lived out Matthew 28:19? Do you find it easy or hard to do?

Do you ever wish you could see Jesus like John saw Jesus?