

Quick review from last week's sermon –

Living a life of worship to God: Appreciation, Adoration, Affection, Glorification

Disciplemaking - when we lead others to Christ and help make disciples

Matthew 28:18–20 ESV

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The context of the passage is - As you are going, make disciples. While it is great to go to Africa, the Middle East, South America this verse also carries with it the charge to disciple as you go along in your everyday life.

What is the difference between a disciple and a convert? (There is a large difference in converts and disciples. A disciple is one who follows, abandons the old ways and intentionally chooses to follow daily.)

Use your words to share the gospel. It is not just our actions but our words.

Romans 10:14 ESV

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

If time, read the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch- Acts 8:26-40. This is a great example of using words and not just living Christianly hoping someone sees Jesus. (Philip used words to share the gospel)

Three kinds of conversations -

Cold conversations – start a conversation with someone you don't know to convince them of a need they have and an answer you have for that need. Many tools are available for this type of method. Have you ever done this? How did it go? What might keep you from doing this?

Foreign conversations – missionaries feel the call to go. Moving out of our comfort zone and serving others meeting needs that they have in order to till the soil. How many have been outside of the country or culture and done so to share the gospel? Allow some to share their experiences.

Daily conversations – (get verses to include here)

In glorifying God, He puts you in circumstances to influence others to see and meet their need for Christ. Encouragement; helping; reminding them control is an illusion; correction over just niceness

Praying without ceasing leads you to see opportunities for conversations

Do you love the people that God places around you? Do you need them in your life and do they know it? Trust and care along with generosity are key.

What are some reasons why you might or might not do this? What can be some of your biggest hurdles to sharing Christ with those closest around you?

Three kinds of friendships in discipling (the ladder illustration)

- Those ahead of you in the faith – upper rungs (they know more about Christ; live differently) these are those who disciple you. Who are these people in your life?
- Those less spiritually mature than you – lower rungs (you disciple them and they are not your best friends) you don't mistreat and kick them off but you lead and disciple them. Who are you leading? If not anyone, would you commit to pray and ask God to show you who needs your leadership in their life?
- Those walking with you – middle rung (these are those pulling alongside and are good or best friends). Who are some of these people who encourage you and walk daily/weekly with you to help you become more like Christ?

You are not the center of the universe and when trying to live that way it only leads to loneliness. We need one another.

The paradox – when we allow God to lead us the more we become a leader. Seeking out leadership is selfish. Leading is characterized by humility and service.

Do a quick recap of allow the group to share what has been meaningful to them from the Never Alone series. (God with Us, The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit, You with God – choosing daily surrender, Us Leading Others)

Take prayer requests and allow time for prayer.