



August 7 ... Be Disciples. Make Disciples
August 14 Love God
August 21 Love Community
August 28 Love World
September 4..... Day of Prayer





Pastor's Introduction

The church is a movement. It started when Jesus called His first disciples to, “Come, follow Me.” He trained them and sent them out with a mission—to be His disciples and make disciples. His final words to them on earth reiterated the mission and expanded it to the ends of the earth. Our mission is clear, and our focus should be as well. That is what the new sermon series, “Join the Mission” is all about.

We will embark on a 4-week study of our mission as the church. We will examine what the mission looks like in our local context as we seek to “be disciples and make disciples” as a church. My prayer is that we will pursue the mission of God with all our hearts and take next steps in our discipleship journey. It is time to join the mission!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Josh T. Green". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed. TG

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Participant Guide for August 7, 2022

Be Disciples. Make Disciples.

Matthew 28:18-20

Highlight

Which verse(s) spoke to you this week?

Explain

Sermon and discussion notes:



Apply

1. Who is someone in your life that you would call a mentor? What sort of impact have they had in your life? Would you be where you are today, professionally, or personally, without that person's influence?
2. What is a disciple-maker? Is a disciple-maker the same thing as a mentor? What are some similarities and differences between a mentor and a disciple-maker?
3. How did Jesus model disciple-making? As a class, discuss the various methods Jesus used to disciple the 12.
4. Jesus also disciplined more intimately three of the 12. Which three did Jesus disciple in this manner? What are some differences in Jesus's discipleship method between the 12 and the three? Why do you believe he picked three of the 12 for intimate discipleship?
5. Jesus called those on the mountain that day to "Go, make disciples, baptize, and teach to obey." Throughout the gospels, how did Jesus model these actions? What are specific stories that come to mind that describe Jesus leading how to accomplish the mission he now passed on to the disciples?
6. How are we, as a class, doing at fulfilling the Great Commission? If we're honest, would you give our class a pass/fail in Great Commission work over the past year? Depending on the answer, what can we do to grow? What are the ways that we are "going, making disciples, baptizing, and teaching?"

Respond

→ **Challenge - What are you going to do in response to the truth communicated today?**

- ◆ Jesus often taught by bringing others alongside the ministry that he was already performing. What ministries are you active in that you could bring someone alongside you? If you're not yet serving, make it a weekly goal to find someone to go serve alongside.



Participant Guide for August 14, 2022

Love God

Romans 12:1-3

Highlight

Which verse(s) spoke to you this week?

Explain

Sermon notes:



Apply

1. Can you remember a childhood toy that you loved? What was it? Why was that toy so special? Do you still have said toy? If not, what happened to it?
2. Even if you still have the toy, your affection or feelings for the toy have likely changed as you got older. As time progresses, our love for people or even objects changes. For Christians, this can happen in our relationship with God. Is your affection for God different now than when you first believed? How has your love for God changed?
3. It can be hard to admit, but it is normal for your affection for God to feel like it's going through ebbs and flows or mountains and valleys. Is there anyone in the class who can share a time of great affection for God and/or a time where you felt far from God?
4. The good news is that although our love for God can feel like it's going through mountains or valleys, God's love for us is never changing. What Bible stories come to mind when you think of God's unfailing love for his people?
5. Read 1 John 4:16: What does it mean to rely on the love God has for us? Why can it be hard to rely on his love? During the times when we feel like our love for God is not what it should be, how can this verse encourage you?

Respond

→ **Challenge - What are you going to do in response to the truth communicated today?**

- ◆ Our passage today calls us to be transformed. In nature, one of the most majestic transformations is a caterpillar transforming into a butterfly. This week, consider what in your life would be different if you were changed by God in such a dramatic fashion.

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Participant Guide for August 21, 2022

Love Community

Mark 1:35-39

Highlight

Which verse(s) spoke to you this week?

Explain

Sermon and discussion notes:



Apply

1. We all belong to many communities. People naturally gravitate toward people who are like them and share common interests. What are some of the communities that you are a part of? Some examples include sports fans, gaming, board games, cards, professional, stay-at-home parents, etc. Would you say that being a part of your community is also at least a small part of your identity? Why is it important for us to gather with people who are like us?
2. We spoke last week about developing a love for God. Do you ever get frustrated because you can talk ad nauseam about certain topics, but struggle to have the same passion for talking about God? What is the difference? How can we develop that same passion for talking about what God is doing in our lives as talking about our other passions?
3. Read 1 John 4:7-8: John calls us to love one another because love comes directly from God. If we understand that love comes from God and know that we are called to love one another (John 13:35), why can it be challenging to show love to those around us? What warning does this passage give to those who do not love others? Should the one who does not love others be concerned about their relationship with God?
4. Because we are capable of love, and God is love, we innately have some knowledge of God in our hearts (Romans 1:18-19). Love is a universal truth. How could you use the concept of love as a universal truth as a talking point while sharing the gospel with someone?
5. Last year, we walked through one of the first recorded Christian communities as recorded in Acts 4:41-47. Since that series, how is our class doing at living out Christian community? Are there any changes or areas of growth that we can identify? If not, how do we start fresh now?

Respond

→ **Challenge - What are you going to do in response to the truth communicated today?**

- ◆ This week, find a way to share what God is doing in your life with the same enthusiasm as talking about your other passions.



Participant Guide for August 28, 2022

Love World

Romans 15:18-24

Highlight

Which verse(s) spoke to you this week?

Explain

Sermon and discussion notes:



Apply

1. It is probably safe to say that John 3:16 easily makes the top 3 list of most well-known Bible verses among Christians. Since the verse is commonly cited when someone shares the gospel with you, it may be one of the first Bible verses you ever hear. For that reason, it seems to stick. But sometimes, the more we hear something, its power and potency can be lost. As a class, break the verse down into parts to help draw out the power of the verse and look at it with fresh eyes. How many parts did you come up with? What stands out to you about this verse that you overlooked before? In his video on Desiring God, John Piper breaks it into four parts on five lines. If you have the time (about 14 minutes) and technological means, watch the video together as a class at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djdEsZzEuRk> or search YouTube for "Our Favorite Verse in the Bible: John 3:16."
2. Read Romans 15:15-17: These verses provide the context of today's passage. Essentially, Paul views being an evangelist as a way to give God praise and thanks. How does our evangelism demonstrate praise and thanksgiving to God? Paul's evangelism comes from an overflow of what God is doing in his life through the Holy Spirit. Are you filling your life with Christ and the Holy Spirit enough that there is overflow? How so? If not, find out from others in your class how they're filling themselves. (We talked last week about Christian community; this is where we lean on one another to grow!)
3. Many Jews were surprised that Christ's gospel message was not just for them but also for the nations! Why were they surprised? What are a few Old Testament stories or passages that seem to clearly tell them that the Messiah is coming to save the World?
4. Romans 15:21 tells us that others will see and understand when we share the gospel. As we've recently discussed, when we share the gospel, we are being used by God to unlock the truth that already exists in the hearts of others. How should knowing this truth help us to be bold in sharing the gospel?

Respond

→ **Challenge - What are you going to do in response to the truth communicated today?**

- ◆ This week, pray for God to show you someone already in your life to whom you can "preach the gospel where Christ has not been named."



Participant Guide for September 4, 2022

Join the Mission Prayer Guide

Read Philippians 4:4-7 - Let your requests be known to God.

- Praise God for his great blessings and mercies.
- Give thanks for something that God has shown you this week.

Read Hebrews 4:16 - Pray for personal confession and repentance.

- Pray that God will show you your own heart and confession of sins.
- Pray for a heart of repentance.
- Pray that you will not be the reason that God cannot move in your life.

Read James 5:16 - Pray for each other in small groups.

- Share prayers for each other and offer them up to God for healing.
- Pray for God to cut away all pretense and “churchiness” so that he may reveal who he knows that we can be.
- Pray for how your group can affect change and serve.

Read Matthew 28:18-20. Pray that God will create a disciple-making culture in our church.

- Pray about how you can personally move deeper in your relationship with Christ.
- Pray for 3-5 people you can invite to participate in a D-Group with you.
- Pray about a location or people group to minister to through an E-Group.

Read Matthew 9:38 - Pray for the laborers of the harvest.

- Pray that God will bring in the harvest for those who are already in our church.
- Pray that we’ll be ready to go when God gets ready to light a spark in Knoxville through our campuses.
- Pray for Norwood School and community.
- Pray for Inskip School and community.
- Pray for our campuses: Wallace, Cumberland, and Iglesia Church.

Plan now to attend churchwide evangelism training on September 18

Plan now to attend the D-Group lab beginning October 19

Read Psalm 145 - Close with a song of Praise.

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