



February 15, 2009 • Dr. David Platt

...BY MAKING DISCIPLES...

Matthew 28:16-20

### A Few Reminders About the Process of Church Membership...

We are not \_\_\_\_\_ shopping for the best product.  
We are not \_\_\_\_\_ looking to compare with the church down the street.  
We are a \_\_\_\_\_ passionate about advancing a Kingdom.

**We glorify Christ BY MAKING DISCIPLES of all nations.**

#### The command is clear...

- Two words: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Biblical community and biblical mission are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ▶ Disciple-making is about \_\_\_\_\_ life in Christ.
  - ▶ Disciple-making is about \_\_\_\_\_ the life of Christ.

#### The command has been compromised...

- We are \_\_\_\_\_ to do everything except the one thing Jesus told us to do in the Great Commission.
  - ▶ Jesus never told us to...
    - Start Sunday School.
    - Form classes.
    - Create \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Construct church \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Build colleges, universities, and seminaries.
    - Organize conventions.
    - Hold conferences.
  - ▶ Jesus did tell us to...
    - Make disciples in every part of the world.
- We have two options...
  - ▶ Self-directed strategies that \_\_\_\_\_ for God's blessing.
  - ▶ A Christ-directed strategy that is \_\_\_\_\_ God's blessing.

#### The command in Christ...

- John 17:4 - "I have finished the work..."
  - ▶ In John 17, Jesus never mentions the miracles He performed or the multitudes to whom He preached, but over 40 times He mentions the \_\_\_\_\_ whom God had given Him out of the world!
  - ▶ Jesus' strategy was to revolutionize the hearts of a \_\_\_\_\_ and in the process turn the world upside down.
- Disciples cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ▶ Jesus spent more time with his disciples than with everybody else in the world put together.



February 15, 2009 • Dr. David Platt

...BY MAKING DISCIPLES...

Matthew 28:16-20

### A Few Reminders About the Process of Church Membership...

We are not **consumers** shopping for the best product.  
We are not **competitors** looking to compare with the church down the street.  
We are a **community** passionate about advancing a Kingdom.

**We glorify Christ BY MAKING DISCIPLES of all nations.**

#### The command is clear...

- Two words: **MAKE DISCIPLES**.
- Biblical community and biblical mission are **inseparable**.
  - ▶ Disciple-making is about **sharing** life in Christ.
  - ▶ Disciple-making is about **multiplying** the life of Christ.

#### The command has been compromised...

- We are **tempted** to do everything except the one thing Jesus told us to do in the Great Commission.
  - ▶ Jesus never told us to...
    - Start Sunday School.
    - Form classes.
    - Create **programs**.
    - Construct church **buildings**.
    - Build colleges, universities, and seminaries.
    - Organize conventions.
    - Hold conferences.
  - ▶ Jesus did tell us to...
    - Make disciples in every part of the world.
- We have two options...
  - ▶ Self-directed strategies that **hope** for God's blessing.
  - ▶ A Christ-directed strategy that is **guaranteed** God's blessing.

#### The command in Christ...

- John 17:4 - "I have finished the work..."
  - ▶ In John 17, Jesus never mentions the miracles He performed or the multitudes to whom He preached, but over 40 times He mentions the **men** whom God had given Him out of the world!
  - ▶ Jesus' strategy was to revolutionize the hearts of a **few** and in the process turn the world upside down.
- Disciples cannot be **mass-produced**.
  - ▶ Jesus spent more time with his disciples than with everybody else in the world put together.

- ▶ Jesus devoted himself to a few men, rather than the masses, so that the masses might be saved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ are God's method for winning the world to Himself.

#### The command in the church...

- \_\_\_\_\_ the Word.
  - ▶ We go with confidence in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - ▶ We go living out the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - ▶ We go empowered by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the Word.
  - ▶ The world longs to see a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ that accompanies our explanation of Christ.
  - ▶ Disciple-making is not about going to a \_\_\_\_\_; disciple-making is about sharing our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ▶ We devote our lives to the process of disciple-making for \_\_\_\_\_ sanctification.
  - ▶ We are dependent on the process of disciple-making for our \_\_\_\_\_ sanctification.
  - ▶ Making disciples is living for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the Word.
  - ▶ We are constantly \_\_\_\_\_ the Word.
  - ▶ We are subsequently \_\_\_\_\_ the Word.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the world.
  - ▶ We lock arms with one another as we \_\_\_\_\_ our lives for the world.
  - ▶ Are we discipling or \_\_\_\_\_ Christians?
  - ▶ Disinfecting \_\_\_\_\_ Christians in a spiritual safety deposit box called the church building and teaches them to be good. This results in...
    - Decent church members with little world impact.
    - Disobedience to God's command to reach the entire world.
    - Wasted lives.
  - ▶ Discipling propels Christians into the world to \_\_\_\_\_ their lives for the sake of others. This results in...
    - Disciples of Christ with total world impact.
    - Obedience to God's command to reach the entire world.
    - Abundant lives.
- The question we must constantly ask as the local church...
  - ▶ How can we \_\_\_\_\_ make disciples of all nations?
- Based on the precedent of Christ and the pattern of the early church, the primary avenue for disciple-making to occur is in the context of \_\_\_\_\_.
- We want to see small groups of disciple-makers all over the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### The question for the church member...

How are you going to \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel with your life?

- ▶ Jesus devoted himself to a few men, rather than the masses, so that the masses might be saved.
- **People** are God's method for winning the world to Himself.

#### The command in the church...

- **Share** the Word.
  - ▶ We go with confidence in the **sovereignty** of God.
  - ▶ We go living out the **Gospel** of God.
  - ▶ We go empowered by the **Spirit** of God.
- **Show** the Word.
  - ▶ The world longs to see a **demonstration** of Christ that accompanies our explanation of Christ.
  - ▶ Disciple-making is not about going to a **class**; disciple-making is about sharing our **lives**.
  - ▶ We devote our lives to the process of disciple-making for **others'** sanctification.
  - ▶ We are dependent on the process of disciple-making for our **own** sanctification.
  - ▶ Making disciples is living for the **glory** of God in others.
- **Teach** the Word.
  - ▶ We are constantly **receiving** the Word.
  - ▶ We are subsequently **reproducing** the Word.
- **Serve** the world.
  - ▶ We lock arms with one another as we **lay down** our lives for the world.
  - ▶ Are we discipling or **disinfecting** Christians?
  - ▶ Disinfecting **isolates** Christians in a spiritual safety deposit box called the church building and teaches them to be good. This results in...
    - Decent church members with little world impact.
    - Disobedience to God's command to reach the entire world.
    - Wasted lives.
  - ▶ Discipling propels Christians into the world to **risk** their lives for the sake of others. This results in...
    - Disciples of Christ with total world impact.
    - Obedience to God's command to reach the entire world.
    - Abundant lives.
- The question we must constantly ask as the local church...
  - ▶ How can we **most effectively** make disciples of all nations?
- Based on the precedent of Christ and the pattern of the early church, the primary avenue for disciple-making to occur is in the context of **small groups**.
- We want to see small groups of disciple-makers all over the **planet**.

#### The question for the church member...

How are you going to **multiply** the Gospel with your life?