

<https://youtu.be/kOAX7MK-7ck>

I am a steward. My mission as a disciple of Jesus Christ is to make more and better disciples for Him everywhere I go. It is the outworking of my loving devotion to Christ and His Church.

Video Key Points:

- ***“We are on a mission from God.”*** I can picture John Belushi saying that line in Blues Brothers when they were trying to raise money to save the Catholic orphanage.
- To be a disciple of Christ is to take on the mission of the Kingdom, given to us by Christ. The description in the CODE for that mission is to make disciples, which is drawn from Matthew 28:18-20. I’m in agreement and on board with the CODE’s emphasis that to follow Christ is to embrace the Mission: As You Go Make Disciples. However, I want to add two clarifying thoughts first by looking at Matthew 28:18-20, and then second looking at all the various ways Jesus taught about the mission he was giving His disciples.
- Read Matthew 28:18-20 if possible in a few different Bible translations.
- Jesus commissions his disciples (gives them the mission of...) to make disciples of the nations. Looking at the Greek, only one verb in the passage is an imperative (meaning a command verb) – make disciples. The rest are participles – going, baptizing, teaching, and so in other words these participle verbs show how to fulfill the imperative command to make disciples.
- A second interesting thing from the Greek is the word, “make” is not there in the text. The word translated make disciples is just the word “disciple” in verb form. You could say to “disciple of the nations” but that doesn’t quite sound right in English so we add the word make, to try to get it to fit the meaning. That is appropriate as long as we keep in mind that we do not make anyone into a disciple – that is what Christ does as people decide to trust in and follow Him. But we can teach people with the intent that they follow Christ as disciples, but understanding that disciples are produced by the inner transformation by the Spirit. Meaning we teach with the idea that people will live out what we are teaching and not just amass Bible information. The disciples we “make” are not disciples of us but disciples of Jesus, and we walk with them as they learn what it means to follow Him.
- The second idea I want to share is that Jesus gives his followers other ways of describing the mission and our work in the Kingdom. This is essentially what my sermon “*Servants of the Kingdom*” on November 16th was about. I went through numerous passages that describe the work we are called to do as His servants.
- We are agents of the Kingdom, called to advance the agenda of our Lord, as we herald and spread the news of Jesus Christ the risen Savior and King
- We are humble servants who proclaim Christ and serve others as a testimony of His goodness within the world.

- We are fruit bearers who spread the seed of the gospel far and wide.
- We are laborers of the harvest, adding people who are ready to respond to the gospel and adding them into the number of those being saved.
- We are messengers sent out by the Master to invite people to come to the feast.
- We are to be wise in our promotion of the Kingdom, watching for the open doors that the Lord puts before us and ever approaching people with gracious words.
- We are to be servants who are faithful in the situation and season in which we are placed by the Master. There are times of harvest as well as seasons of patient labor.
- If you get a chance maybe go back and listen to the message on 11-16-25 that covers all of this: <https://www.youtube.com/live/jxZyuBARWqU?si=LjJCpfDMaa-egQQw>

Questions for Understanding:

- Read Matthew 28:16-20 – How have you seen disciples made in or by the church? What has been key to you becoming a disciple?
- Read Acts 1:8 + Romans 1:16 + John 15:15-16
- As a group list out as many other ways of describing the mission as you can.
- Which way of describing the mission most resonates for you?
- Read Acts 4:13 + Colossians 4:5-6
- Why is it important that we don't just leave this work to the "professionals" – how does the Lord use ordinary believers in the work of advancing the kingdom work?

Life Questions:

- Which of the 5 devotional days spoke most to you this week?
- When have you in the past felt involved in the work of the gospel/kingdom?
- How do you react to the idea of sharing your faith with another person? Anxiety?
- What step outside of your comfort zone do you sense the Lord calling you to take?

Closing in Prayer: Use one of the Devotion prayers or Pray using your own Words