

DISCIPLES—5 A DISCIPLE GOES OUT

This week, we will rap up this series. If you have your Bibles with you open them up today to Matthew 10. That's where we where we are going to be spending the majority of our time.

Let me just **RE-CAP** where we have been in this series. My goal was to re-define the way we see our role as disciples, and I have given you lots of very simple statements, hoping to capture your attention and focus toward some very important characteristics of disciples.

I want tell you the last thing that Jesus said before He ascended to Heaven. If there is anything that would be important, it would perhaps be the last thing. To summarize in one bullet statement the heart and philosophy of the last thing that Jesus said, I would say this...

"A disciple of Jesus goes out."

A disciple of Jesus leaves where they are & goes to where God is calling them, to do what God asked them to do.

- **A DISCIPLE OF JESUS GOES OUT.** *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations... Matthew 28:19*

Jesus said told his Disciples to go.... make more disciples!

go: *poreuomai* (por-yoo'-om-ah-ee); travel, depart, go, to take a journey.

A disciple of Jesus goes out, which is kind of odd if you think about the American church model, including ours.

The American church model for the most part is, "Let's do whatever we can to get people to come." Right?

Let's build a fancy, nice building, Let's put on the right kind of productions, Easter/Christmas Let's do a concert and bring in the big-name Christian artist so that people will come. Let's do a Vacation Bible School so that kids will come. Let's go put door hangers on the doors of people who live close by so that they will come.

Perhaps, an equal or bigger challenge for the American church today is not just to get people to come, which is important, but perhaps rather than try to get people to come to the church, we as disciples should try to get the church to go to the world.

"We've got to get the people called the church to go to the world," because that's what a disciple of Jesus does. A disciple goes out.

What was Jesus' mission... To seek and save that which was lost! What is our Mission? To do likewise!

These twelve Jesus sent out... Matthew 10:5

apostello (ap-os-tel'-lo); set apart, to send out on a mission.

- **A Christian goes on a mission trip.**
- **A Disciple is a missionary.**

A "SENT ONE"

1) MAKES THE MESSAGE SIMPLE. *As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'* Matt. 10:7

Understand this, Jesus was the embodiment of the Kingdom of Heaven. That is who He was, and He is very humbly saying, "Preach about Me.

Our message as disciples does not have to be complicated.

It is not about denominational preference. It is not about literally having better morals.

The message of Christ is not meant to be a feel good, or a positive thinking message.

It is a very, very simple message that we, as sinful people, are separated from a holy God. God loved us so much that Jesus went on the very first Heavenly mission trip in order to give Himself for us, so that we should live.

We could be made right with Him, not by religion, not by works, but only by faith through the grace of God, believing in Jesus Christ. It is a very, very simple message, and we are called to take that message into all of the world very, very aggressively.

Now, if you are anything like most people that I know, the thought of going out and talking about this horrifies you, because you may get in a conversation or in an environment where you just don't know what to say. What if someone asks me a question?

As Jesus was talking to His disciples, calling them to go out, they were concerned, perhaps, a little bit about this. What would happen if they didn't know what to say? What would happen if they ended up in prison and had to try to defend the message?

... do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Matthew 10:19-20

It is one of the most amazing promises in scripture. You go where God calls you to go, and He will give you the words to say every time.

We don't have to complicate it with all of the other stuff. You are a sent one, apostello, called to poreuomai, to go out. A disciple of Jesus goes out, and when you go, you keep the message simple.

2) MAKES COMPASSION CENTRAL.

How many of you have ever heard the Phrase... **Feed the stomach of a man and you can then feed his soul!**

Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Matthew 10:8

As disciples of Jesus, we should be the most compassionate, caring, and generous people on planet earth.

God is calling us to go to the poor, the broken, the ostracized and the lost, and when we do that, we will hurt. And when we hurt for them, we will love them, in the name of Jesus and for His glory.

What's your holy hurt? Have you been blessed? If you have been blessed, Jesus says,

Freely you have received, freely give. Matthew 10:8b