

Mission of a Disciple

The measures of a disciple, discussed in an earlier message (Truth and love) are the measures of what we are to be. The mission of a disciple is, by contrast, what a disciple is to do.

1. Disciples are to be the representatives of Christ in the world
 - A. They are the light of the world – Matthew 5:14-16 (936)
 - 1) Don't hide your faith
 - 2) Direct your praise to God
 - B. They are chosen people and a royal priesthood - 1 Peter 2:9 (1177)
 - 1) Our relationship with God is for a purpose
 - 2) That purpose is to declare his praise
 - C. They are ambassadors for Christ – 2 Corinthians 5:20 (1122)
 - 1) We present God's appeal on His behalf
 - 2) Our message is reconciliation – Outside of Christ, we are enemies
2. Disciples are to be making disciples for Christ – This is our fundamental purpose
 - A. Baptizing them
 - 1) Closely associated with coming to belief in Christ
 - a. Ex. Phillip and the Ethiopian – Acts 8:34-38 (1064)
 - b. Baptism in Scripture is always connected to believing in Christ
 - 2) In Baptism, we identify with the death and resurrection of Christ – Romans 6:3-4 (1094)
 - a. What does identifying mean?
 - (1) We are dead to sin – vs. 1-2, 5-7
 - (2) We are alive in Christ – vs. 8-10
 - b. How do we die to sin and live for Christ?
 - (1) Count yourselves dead to sin, sin is dead to me – vs. 11-12
 - (2) Don't offer yourselves to sin – vs. 13-14
 - 3) In Baptism, we give testimony that we have believed in Christ – Acts 2:38-41 (1057); 8:12 (1064)
 - 4) Baptism is not a means of earning our salvation – Ephesians 2:8-10 (1134)
 - a. Salvation is not by works – vs. 8-9
 - b. Good works are part of our purpose – vs. 10
 - B. Teaching them
 - 1) Jesus' teaching is the foundation of truth for His disciples – John 8:31-23 (1038)
 - C. Teaching them to obey
 - 1) It is not enough to know the truth, we must also obey the truth – John 15:9-11 (1046)
 - a. What does it mean to remain in God's love?
 - (1) It is not a question of God only loves me when I obey
 - (2) When someone loves another, they want what is best for the other person
 - (3) Their instructions and advice are to protect and provide for that person
 - (4) When we obey, we remain in love's protection and provision

(5) When we disobey, we remove ourselves from love's protection and provision

3. Two common themes

A. We are to demonstrate life change

B. We are to be involved in bold proclamation