

DISCIPLES

PRECEPT

MATTHEW 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹ Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

PROMISE

After the first Easter, that early Sunday morning where the disciples discovered that Jesus rose from the dead, something happened; and you and I are the product of it. A revolution was born; not about throwing out the Roman government, but about starting a movement based on the mandate by the risen King. Jesus told His followers that He will meet them on the mountain in Galilee. When they came together with His other followers, Jesus showed up and told them the words in Matthew 28:18-20 (above verses). After Jesus said these words, He then ascended to Heaven. In the account of Luke in chapter 24:50-53, he said Jesus blessed them and was taken up to heaven. Afterwards, they worshipped Him as they returned back to Jerusalem and continually did so. We can emphasize that instead of Jesus telling His followers to worship, serve, and praise Him, His last words to them specifically is to go and make disciples. This is when a new movement was born; the disciples of Christ made disciples of all nations, regardless of race and status in the society. They dedicated their lives on making followers of Christ. The sad reality today is many believers forgot this mandate and according to statistics, 40% of Christians are not engaged in discipleship. What's even more sad is that 50% of churchgoers don't know about the Great Commission. As committed followers of Christ, let us remember that because of the resurrection, a revolution was born, and we are here today because of the mandate Jesus gave His early disciples. How can we become true disciples of Christ?

KNOW JESUS AS YOUR SAVIOUR. A disciple of Christ knows Him personally. As a disciple of Christ, we should have an intimate relationship with Him. We know that we owe our life to Him for He is our Lord and Saviour, and He is everything to us; our redeemer, deliverer, defender, protector, and many others. A disciple knows Jesus wholeheartedly, sincerely, eagerly, and passionately. Apostle Paul, a known passionate disciple of Christ, said in Philippians 3:8, *"I count everything as loss compared to the priceless privilege and supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have lost everything, and I consider it all garbage, so that I may gain Christ."* If we truly have a deep relationship with Jesus, and we claim to know Him, we must stop entertaining sin in our lives for 1 John 3:6 says, *"Anyone who goes on sinning has never really understood Christ and has never known Him."*

FOLLOW JESUS AS YOUR MASTER. A disciple of Christ goes where Jesus leads Him to. Matthew 16:24 tells us, *"If any of you want to be My followers, you must forget about yourself. You must take up your cross and follow Me."* Regardless of how hard life can be, we are to set aside all our selfish desires, agenda, and interest, and follow Him wholeheartedly.

GROW TO BE LIKE JESUS. 1 John 2:6 tells us, *"Anyone who says he is a Christian should live as Christ did."* We must grow to be like Him in character, in conduct, in knowledge, and in obedience to Him. We are to live as Christ did, and we can only do this with His help. We are to always go to God in prayer, read God's Word daily, obey Him moment by moment, and witness for Jesus by our words and by our life.

PRACTICE

1. Perception. Share to the group what does it mean to be a disciple of Christ personally? Do you consider yourself as one?

2. Being a Disciple. In what area (Know, Follow, Grow) do you need to improve in order to be a true disciple of Christ? How will you apply it this week?

PRAYER

I. North Life Connections

- Pray for these couples as they lead the North groups: Ocampo and Ico.

II. South Life Connections

- Pray for the Drapeza couple as they lead the South groups. Pray that more people in this area will be reached out.

III. East Life Connections

- Pray for these couples as they lead the East groups: Domingo and Torres.

IV. West Life Connections

- Pray for these couples as they lead the West groups: Solidum and Fabregas.

V. Downtown Life Connections

- Pray for the Gamboa couple as they lead the Downtown groups. Pray that more people in this area will be reached out.

VI. Young Couples

- Pray for these couples as they lead the Young Couples groups: Oliveros and Imperial.

VII. Young Once Ministry

- Pray for our coordinators Rene & Lita Alipao as they continue to lead this group.