

MONDAY 2.21.22 – MATTHEW 28:16-20

The Great Commission in Matthew 28 commands us to be witnesses for Jesus, “go and make disciples of all nations...”

In Acts 1:8, we are told that as Christians we have already been given the power to obey Jesus’ command. “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you...” The moment you accepted Jesus as your Savior, you received the Holy Spirit and His power that enabled you to be His witness.

So specifically, how do we do that?

- 1. Build A Relationship: Jesus showed you can accept somebody without approving of their lifestyle. Make yourself available to unbelievers, invite them over for a meal and listen to them. Be a friend and truly care about them!
- 2. Share Your Story: God has chosen to work in your life in a particular way for a reason. Be willing to share a small example of how God has worked in your life.
- 3. Pray: Ask the Lord to give you opportunities to share your faith, that He will guide your conversations, and give you wisdom as you interact with unbelievers.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 2.22.22 – 1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-23

Early in my ministry, I heard a pastor share about the early days of their church plant. They were small and resources were limited... but the was good news to be shared! One Sunday, a young mother was a guest with her disabled child. She had a great experience, she wanted to know more about Jesus, she wanted to know for herself the hope and joy she saw in the people around her. But she was convinced this new church with limited resources could not meet the specific needs of her child.

The pastor’s response... “We will do whatever it takes!” What an incredible echo to Paul’s words in 1 Corinthians 9. Church, we have Good News to share, there is no question about it. The question is, will **we** do WHATEVER IT TAKES?

Who in your life needs to take their next step with God? What obstacles stand in the way? Will you do whatever it takes to remove them?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 2.23.22 – ACTS 1:9-26

Before He ascended into heaven, the resurrected Christ commanded His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promised Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5). They did not question the Lord’s directive. Rather, they obeyed immediately and completely. They returned to the city of Jerusalem, gathered in an upper room, and waited. How did they occupy their time, waiting for the arrival of the Spirit? *“They all joined together constantly in prayer”* (Acts 1:14). Follow the pattern of the early followers of Jesus by investing time in talking to the Lord.

PRAYER: Father, teach us that prayer time is not wasted time. Help us to look to you daily in prayer for direction, guidance, and wisdom as we wait on you. Amen.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 2.24.22 – ISAIAH 40:28-31

Those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. There are probably many reasons why we find waiting so hard. Here are a few reasons I thought of:

- 1. Avoiding worry: “just get it done and out of the way and then you do not have to worry about it.
- 2. Avoiding Pain: “if I could just fix this problem my life would be so much easier.

- 3. A sense of pride: I can handle this, maybe even better than God can.
- 4. Wanting to be in control: It is hard to let go and let God. How many blessings have we missed because we have chosen to run ahead of God rather than waiting on Him? When it comes to the races of this life, it is better to let God come in first.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 2.25.22 – PSALM 27:11-14

We should not be surprised when opposition rises against our faith. Depending on your preferred translation, the Bible speaks of false prophets dozens of times. Our enemies and friends, perfect strangers and beloved family, faithless and faithful alike. Whether they mean to or not, all can steer our focus away from God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit as we navigate our lives. We are reminded to turn our eyes to our own, personal relationship with God as we wait for Him with confident expectation. He alone can open our eyes to heaven on earth. He alone will strengthen our hearts.

PRAYER: Father God, give me strength and courage to follow You, to not let false prophets discourage me from taking steps to deepen my relationship with You. I prayerfully ask for patience and a life filled with joyful obedience as I wait for You. Amen.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION
