

WDM
Hope Chapel Honolulu
Matthew 28:16-20

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Introduction

I believe that at its most essential level, the Christian faith is all about worship, discipleship and multiplication, or **WDM** for short. I have been saying that the goal of worship and discipleship is to know God, make Him known, partner with Him and enjoy Him forever. That may seem a little simplistic, or perhaps to some of you, that I must be mistaken about this being one goal rather than four goals. But I am convinced that one cannot really know God unless they make Him known, that we cannot make God known without partnering with Him, and that unless we partner with Him we cannot enjoy Him forever beginning today.

1. A process of growing in trust and unity. (Matthew 28:16-17)

- a) Even after His resurrection some of the disciples doubted Christ.
- b) Perhaps worship, too, is a process of growing in our trust in God.

2. Ours is to go, baptize, model and teach. (Matthew 28:18-20a)

- a) The Father has given all authority to Christ both to reconcile and commission us for reconciliation.
- b) Our commission is "go to everyone, baptize first, teach obedience to everything, send and repeat."

3. The ministry of reconciliation. (Matthew 28:20b, 2Corinthians 5:17-21)

- a) Christ is the One who calls, saves, sends and gives success.
- b) Christ for us, with us, in us and through us makes the Great Commission possible.

Conclusion

While Christ does not direct us to "plant churches," He does say two things that we shouldn't ignore: 1) all of us who are called by His Name are to go, baptize and teach obedience, and 2) Christ will build His Church. That tells me that we are to focus our energy and attention on the function of worship, discipleship and multiplication and entrust the form of Church to Christ. When we all go, when we all baptize, when we all model and teach obedience to all Christ commanded so that there is a God-given unity in our diversity, we will see the multiplication resulting in the global spread of the Gospel and the Kingdom.

For our prayerful study, discovery and application:

1. What does it mean to grow in trust and unity? How are you being and doing in this process?
2. Who's discipling you? Who are you discipling?
3. Read, compare and share Matthew 28:16-20 and 2Corinthians 5:17-21, then prayerfully act.

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