

Everyday Mission

16 Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:16-20 (NLT)

Observation (what does the text say?) **Interpretation** (what does it mean?) **Application** (what does it mean to me/us?)

Discussion/Topic Starters (Ice Breakers)

- What is the greatest challenge you've faced in the past year?
Where did you find your resources to face that challenge?
- O: What things in the text strike you or jump out at you? Why?

v.16-20

- O: Who were the original audience? (*disciples, v.16*)
What had they experienced/witnessed? (*Jesus' life, death, and resurrection*)
How have they since responded? (*worshiping Jesus, v.17*)
Considering all that they have seen, do you find it odd that “some of them doubted”? (v.17)
Can you still worship, follow, serve Jesus if you have doubts?
- I: What is the scope of Jesus' authority mentioned in v.18? (*also see Eph. 1:20-21*)
How/Why is Jesus' authority the foundation of what it to follow? What does that mean for us?
- I: What does “make disciples” mean? (What even is a disciple?)
- I: Discuss the process laid out in this passage; (*Worship, Go, Baptize, Teach*)
Worship - our own pursuit of Jesus, individually and corporately
Go - It's the foundation of all we do, not just one week a year or one morning a week.
Baptize - For this to happen, we have to be sharing the good news, actively
Teach - Is this just for “pastors”?
How does/could this process from the passage play out in your life?
- I: Why do you think many Christians are passive or fearful when it comes to “evangelism”?
- A: Read v.20, then go back the Matthew 1:23. How does Matthew 28:20 expound on 1:23?
What implications does this have for us?
What are specific ways that you experience this?
What can separate us from this? (Read Romans 8:38–39)
- A: How would you explain the gospel to someone? What would you teach a new believer?
What are you learning these days (or, how are you incorporating “all he commanded” into your life)?

Recommended Follow-up:

- Read: Next week's sermon (8/28/11) will focus on Acts 5:1-16. Take time prior to next Sunday to read & study the passage, pray through the passage, meditate on the passage, etc.

* As discussed in Riverside's HGLT (Home Group Leader Training), these guides are to be starting points for home group leaders to develop their own guides and approaches to leading group discussions. This is a resource tool, not a rigid “go through this guide word-for-word.”