THREE WORDS: MAKE DISCIPLES, MAKE DISCIPLES, MAKE DISCIPLES

Matthew 28:16-20

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INTRODUCTION

I. JESUS IS THE REIGNING KING WITH A BATTLE PLAN TO COMPLETELY CONQUER (Matthew 28:18)

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. –Jesus in verse 18

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together... For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross. –Colossians 1:15-17, 19, 20

II. JESUS' ORDERS ARE SIMPLE, STRAIGHTFOWARD, AND STAGGERING (Matthew 28:19-20a)

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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. –Jesus in verses 19-20

A. MAKE DISCIPLES

Spiritual formation is the task of the church. Period. It represents neither an interesting, optional pursuit by the church nor an insignificant category in the job description of the body. Spiritual formation is at the heart of its whole purpose for existence. The church was formed to form. Our charge, given by Jesus himself, is to make disciples.

—Chris Shirley, "It Takes A Church to Make a Disciple"

I must be blunt: I find no biblical evidence for the separation of Christian from disciple. - BILL HULL

B. How We Make Disciples

- 1. Going
- 2. Baptizing
- 3. Teaching

MAKE • GOING
• BAPTIZING
• TEACHING

III. JESUS' PERPETUAL PRESENCE IS OUR STRENGTH AND POWER (Matthew 28:20b)

Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. —Jesus in verse 20b

This is not so much a cosy reassurance as a necessary equipment for mission.

- R. T. FRANCE

* See Matthew 1:13

CONCLUSION