

(1) An Opening THOUGHT

“The community of disciples that Jesus drew around himself and sent out to be witnesses to God’s mighty acts of liberation had distinctive marks. These characteristics were (and are) a prerequisite for the faithful fulfilment of that community’s mission calling.”

J. Andrew Kirk | *What is Mission?*

(3) Key POINTS

- The entire mission of the church can be summarized by Jesus’ command: “make disciples of all nations.”
- The core story of disciple-making is Jesus’ life, death, resurrection and future judgement.
- Disciple-making includes both reaching unbelievers and nurturing believers.
- Every believer has been commissioned to actively participate in God’s mission.

(2) Read the TEXT Together

Luke 24:46-49 - He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Matthew 28:18-20 - Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Acts 1:8 - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

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Do you have questions or comments about this resource?
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GROUPS RESOURCE

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO HELP GROUPS FOLLOW JESUS TOGETHER

(4) Looking to the WORD

Read:

- Matthew 28:18-20
- 1 Corinthians 15:3-8
- Colossians 1:6
- Acts 4:18-20

What stands out to you from these verses? How are these verses important to being a disciple?

(5) Looking at our WORLD

- Jeremy mentioned that the mission of the church is the transformation of lives toward Jesus. What are some things that get in the way of pursuing this goal?
- Jeremy explained that disciple-making includes both reaching unbelievers and nurturing believers. Disciple-making, once called proselytizing, has become frowned upon by many outside the church. What are some reasons for this? How can we continue disciple-making, but in a positive, less threatening way?

(6) Looking at our LIVES

Share with your GROUP...

- Who did God use to reach you with his good news?
- Who has He used to help you grow up in faith?
- How might God be wanting you to use you in the lives of others?

(7) Looking AHEAD and PRAYING Together

Here are this week's On-Ramps:

- Ask God to wake up your heart to his mission in the world.
- Pay attention to where and to whom God has already sent you. (places & people)
- Pray faithfully for God's favour and fruitfulness in your relationships.
- Find active ways to tell the story (witness), reaching and nurturing others towards Jesus.
- Partner with others in God's mission through prayer and financial generosity.

In what ways might you act on these? Include this in your prayer time.