

SERIES: CHURCH 101
SERMON #5

GETTING STARTED

How long have you been at Chatham Church? Why did you choose to become a part of this church family?

DIGGING IN

Read Matthew 28:16-20. Verse 16 says that Jesus “directed them” to go to the top of a mountain before he spoke these words. That seems like a lot of work for a couple of short sentences! What object lesson might Jesus be using to emphasize his point (a commissioning on the top of a mountain)? Have you ever experienced a “mountain top” moment in which you understood the size and grandeur of Jesus’ mission?

Does it surprise you that Matthew mentions those who doubt in verse 17? Why do you think he included that bit of information?

Why is “authority” important in a commissioning? Another way to say this: if a person is being commissioned for a task, why is it important to know the authority in which one is being sent out on a mission?

Verse 16 says that Jesus was speaking to his “disciples,” and his mission for them is to “make disciples.” If Jesus’ strategy was for a small group of disciples to raise up other disciples, how critical is it for each disciple to multiply himself during the course of his life? What impact would it have had if one-half of the disciples failed to make other disciples?

Jesus explains “making disciples” in verses 19-20. These verses show both a “reaching” and a “teaching” component of the mission. Reaching others is connecting them with the salvation Jesus offers, which is pictured in baptism. Read Romans 6:3-11 to see why baptism was an important personal identification with Jesus’ death and resurrection. Before being taught the teachings of Jesus, what must first happen in your life? Hint: Verse 11 explains why salvation is foundational to being a disciple of Jesus.

Verse 20 provides the “teaching” component of our mission. What styles of “teaching” had Jesus practiced with his disciples (how many can you identify)? What subject matters had Jesus covered in His teaching? Where had Jesus taught—was it only in the synagogue? How should this impact the ministry of the church?

LIVING IT OUT

In verse 20, Jesus closes by reminding his followers that He will always be with them. Let’s spend the last 20+ minutes with Jesus in prayer for our church. Pray that we would be a church that reaches those that do not know Jesus. Pray that God would show you personally who you might attempt to connect with Jesus. Pray that we as a church would always be on mission to multiply disciples of Jesus. Pray for Chatham Kids ministry to reach and teach the next generation of Christ followers. Pray for our youth to catch the vision of Jesus’ mission to make disciples. Pray for our small groups to train up apprentice leaders and to multiply themselves as they make disciples. Pray that we would be good stewards of all our resources so that we might make disciples of Jesus.

These sermon notes are produced each week for further study and discussion in our small groups. If you are interested in joining a small group, please contact Leslie Ann Yell at smallgroups@chathamchurch.org or 545-9589.