

Reflection Questions: Matthew 28:16-20

For the message, "Realigned for the Mission" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on January 26, 2025

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: 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."

Let's get started...

- What grabs initially grabs your attention in this text? What questions or thoughts arise as you reflect on what its saying?

QUESTIONS

1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.

- (1) The central command Jesus gives his followers after his resurrection is "to make disciples." How would you describe the difference between someone who merely believes certain truths about Jesus or someone who may be merely a fan of Jesus, and someone who is a disciple of Jesus?
- (2) Reflect on the "for alls" of the Great commission: (1) all authority has been given to Christ, (2) all nations are to be discipled, (3) all that Jesus has taught is to be taught to others, and (4) all our days, Jesus promises to be with us. Which on of these resonates the most with you, and why?
- (3) What challenges do you personally face in seeking to engage in talking to others about the Good News of Jesus?

2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.

- (1) What comes to your mind when you imagine a group of Jesus' followers engaged in this mission of making disciples?

- (2) What would you like to see happen at MHC to encourage and equip our community to be faithful in sharing the gospel of Jesus with others (be sure to let the elders know your thoughts too!).
- (3) What is the cost if we merely exist for ourselves—our own desires and needs—and do not exist for the mission of Jesus?

3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.

- (1) The Great Commission of Jesus in these verses calls us to make disciples of all nations. The pastor pointed out that “nations” in the original language doesn't refer so much to nation states as we think of them today, but to any group that shares various customs. How should this help us in thinking like missionaries right here in our local community of Bryan - College Station?
- (2) In the message, Christopher Wright was quoted as saying, “It's not so much that Jesus has a mission for his church, as that he has a church for his mission” (*The Mission of God*) What is he trying to say?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

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