

Sermon Discussion Guide

Global Outreach: Reframing the Great Commission (Victor Nakah)
Matthew 28:16-20
February 29 & March 1, 2020

Part 1: Pray

Every time we study God's word, we should ask God to give us the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts, teach us and mold us into who he created us to be. Ask God to reveal his truth to transform you through your discussion time.

Part 2: Read the Text

Read the passage(s) from the sermon. Keep a focus on key words, repeated phrases or major themes.

Part 3: Reflect on the Sermon

Introduction

1. Early in the 1900's it was declared the church had become truly global. As we've discussed global outreach the past two weekends, what are some of the implications of the U.S. being a (small) part of the global church?
2. What are some of your reflections from the statistics that Victor shared about the African Continent, including that there are 600 million Christians in Africa?

Great Announcement

1. At this crucial moments of 'hand-off' to his disciples, Jesus declares the authority that was given to him. Why was this important for Jesus to announce?

2. Reflect on the implications of Jesus being the one to build his church. In Victor's words, "This is what will determine the success of the global church, Jesus being with it."
3. The authority of Jesus is in contrast to the false gods, ancestral religions and contradictory ideas we are called to leave behind. What were/are some examples of things in your faith journey that you left behind?

Great Command

1. Victor emphasized the importance of Jesus' command to "make disciples" of all people. He's point was that we get very caught up in the command to "go" but we forget the second part. Have you been guilty of this? Why do you think this has become the case?
2. Spend some time in your group talking about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. How would you define a disciple? When do you know that someone is a disciple of Jesus?
3. Among other things, discipleship changes our loyalty, it means obeying all that God has commanded and it means seeking the beauty of Jesus in the beatitudes (poor in spirit, pure in heart, meek). Reflect on some of your personal challenges to love and follow Jesus in these ways.

4. Victor asked the simple, challenging question, “If we are not following Jesus, how can we ever disciple others?” Discuss what he means by this. How does this motivate you in discipleship?

Great Promise

1. Look back at the passage and take note of the promises God makes about his power and presence in the live of the disciples. What is encouraging about each of these?

2. What makes God’s promise of, “I am with you always” so comforting?

3. Take some time in your group to pray, again, for our global ministry partners. Pray for people to come to faith, but also to become disciples. Pray for the families of our missionaries, the health of their teams, their fundraising and their ministry stamina.

Part 4: Summarize the Message

How would you summarize the sermon to someone who has never heard it? What are your two or three key takeaways from the message and your discussion?

How does this sermon change your perspective on God? Your own heart? And/or, how to follow him?