

November 29, 2020.
Christ Chapel Of Bandera
Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Not needed to follow this writing/lesson is a referenced Study Guide. An attempt has been made where anybody with a Bible will find easy reading.

Sunday, November 29, 2020. The Gospel Project; Adult Daily Discipleship Guide ESV; Volume 9, Number 1; Fall 2020; Jesus Commissions His Disciples.

Opening Joke:

Have you ever imagined a world without hypothetical situations?

Opening Prayer:

In class: Ask an attendee to open with a word of prayer.

On WEB site: All glory and honor to You Almighty Father, Lord and King, Ruler of all. Your power and majesty are evident throughout Your creation. So is Your love. The sacrifice of Your Son is a high price to pay just so disobedient sinners may enjoy an everlasting life in Your presence. Unprofitable servants rejoice again at the thought of Jesus Christ rising from the dead thereby defeating the grave and giving hope to all that accept. What good news You have given us through Your Son. How can we, Your chosen ones, keep such glad tidings to ourselves? Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for the forgiveness of sin. Amen

Disclaimer:

I am not seminary trained. Other than being a Christian, I do not claim any special relationship with God. Therefore, feel free to disagree with anything and everything I write/say.

The Lesson:

Questions for thought:

As a Christian, though whom do you have hope?

Hope in what?

Do you look forward to the day that hope will be realized as fact?

Do you want to share that hope with others?

Now read Mark 16:14-16

Questions for thought:

At this point why were there only 11 apostles, not 12? (Judas had committed suicide and nobody else had been appointed yet. See Acts 1:15-26)

What were the 11 doing when Jesus appeared? (Vs. 14, “reclining at the table”)

Continued questions for thought:

Why did Jesus reproach the 11? (Mark 16:14, “for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen)

In verse 15, what did Jesus tell the 11 to do? (“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation”)

Does that mean everybody?

In verse 16, who did Jesus indicate would be saved? (“He who has believed and has been baptized”)

Still in verse 16, who did Jesus say would be condemned? (“He who has disbelieved”)

Using the Bible translation of your choice, read Matt 28:16-20.

Questions for thought:

Where were the 11? (Matt 28:16, The mountain to which Jesus had directed them)

Therefore, in verse 19, when Jesus told the 11 to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” is Matthew writing about a different incident than Mark?

In Matt 28:17, when the 11 first saw Jesus, what did they do? (Worship Him)

Verse 17 goes on to say, “but some doubted.” Doubted what?

These 11 people had personally heard Jesus teach, knew Jesus was crucified, that Jesus had been placed in a tomb, and had seen Jesus after He had risen; how could there still be any doubt?

Do Christians still have doubts today?

Isaiah 44:28, 45:1, and 45:13 state the Lord will have a man named Cyrus set Hebrew exiles free and let Jerusalem be rebuilt. Historically speaking, 400 to 450 years after Isaiah made the prediction, Cyrus the Great of the Medo-Persian Empire ordered that Hebrew exiles be allowed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild it. Just like Isaiah’s prediction there is historical evidence that Jesus was raised from the dead. Even non-believers admit there is ample evidence of Jesus rising from the dead. Considering all the various Bible proofs, why do Christians have doubts today?

What should Christians today do when doubts arise?

Does having doubts permanently separate the doubter from God?

The Study Guide says on page 126:

What doubts do you have about Christianity? Do you have questions that have gone unanswered? There is nothing wrong with questions – in fact, our faith is strengthened when we take the time to wrestle through our questions and find answers. But here we see that even some followers of Jesus – who were in the physical presence of Jesus – had doubts. What’s incredible, though, is that their doubts did not cause Jesus to turn away; instead, He chose to come near.

If you have questions that have gone unanswered, it’s highly likely that the people in your life whom God wants you to share the gospel with also have

unanswered questions. So what if, instead of being hard on yourself and thinking you're disqualified from doing evangelism because of your doubts, you took the time to wrestle through them? And what if while you're in the process of wrestling through your doubts, God was actually preparing you to share the gospel and make disciple of all nations, beginning with the people presently in your life?

Using the Bible translation of your choice read Acts 1:1-11.

Questions for thought:

To whom was the book of Acts written? (Acts 1:1, Theophilus)

What other book of the Bible was written to Theophilus? (Luke 1:3, Luke)

The opening statements of both books indicate each was written to inform Theophilus of certain things; therefore, is it possible Luke wrote both books?

According to Acts 1:3, over how many days after the resurrection did Jesus repeatedly appear to the apostles? (Act 1:3, Forty)

In Acts 1:4-5, Jesus told the apostles not to leave Jerusalem until they had received what? (Holy Spirit)

In Acts 1:9, what happened to Jesus in the presence of Apostles? (He was lifted up and a cloud received Him out of their sight)

In Acts 1:11, where did Jesus go? (Heaven)

In Acts 1:11, is there indication that Jesus will return? (Yes)

How will Jesus return? (Acts 1:11, "just the same way as you [the apostles] have watched Him go")

We now have the opportunity to go next door to worship God and encourage each other in the spreading the good news of forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ. Let us do so with hope in our hearts.

Thank you for allowing me to worship the Lord with you today.

Joe Huth