

**Tues/ Wednesday 18/19 April 2023 ~ Go#1
Matthew 28:18-20**

In his sermon this past Sunday, Tim spoke about the heart that God has to partner with us in bringing others to know Him and to teach and model to them what it means to be His disciples.

As an icebreaker, allow 5 minutes for people to share anything that resonated with or encouraged or challenged them as Tim spoke this week. Take a minute to read the passage together and pray for God’s continual revelation and guidance as you dive deeper into it as a group now.

**Authority (vs. 18)**

Jesus is Lord and ultimate ruler over everyone and everything – therefore He has the authority to send us anywhere (as everywhere is under his authority) and - even more incredibly, we see that he grants us authority too… he empowers us to make disciples of Him.

* How does the knowledge that “Jesus has authority over all” help us as we take up this invitation to partner with Him in our day to day contexts? **OR**
* If we went into our days really believing that Jesus has authority over all, in what ways would this seep into our conversations and how we pray for our friends and family and colleagues?

**Go (vs. 19)**

* What does this command to “go” stir up in us as individuals? (*a possible range of feelings – I’m not called/qualified/interested/it’s too personal a decision or conversation/excited at the opportunity/questions as to how or why*)
* What experiences have you had personally of “going”…. If we define “going” not only as international mission assignments but as representing Jesus wherever you are – do you have some experience you can share with your group that will encourage them as to how you’ve seen God at work when you are willing to “go” and have those conversations?

**Make Disciples (vs. 19)**

* How does God empower us and partner with us to make disciples? See John 15:26 (*By His Spirit*:
	+ *His spirit goes ahead of us working in* *the hearts and minds of those we will be in conversations with;*
	+ *His spirit is doing transformative work in us making us people who are salt and light – people that are clearly anchored in One who gives us freedom from the trappings of this world, and that draws people to ask about our reason for how we have hope and reason to live the set apart lives that we live; )*
* Take a few minutes to discuss the question: What does a disciple look like? Pastor and author John Mark Comer offers a helpful summary of the goal of modern-day disciples of Jesus to be people who are continually on the journey to:
	+ be with Jesus;
	+ become like Jesus; and
	+ do what Jesus did
* Disciples submit to the authority of their teacher and live that out in their lifestyle. One practical outworking of this is the outward display of baptism and secondly in obedience as a life lived under His leadership. We see from vs. 16-17 that the disciples weren’t perfect but they were willing to “go” and trust God to do His will through them. What fears or doubts might hold us back from being “disciple-makers”?

 **Time for some Action!**

* What would it look like to start and continue your day tomorrow with a sense of “Go”? To see your place of work/study/sphere of influence as the “mission field” that God has put you in for such a time as this… how might you pray differently on the way to work? How might we be intentional about the direction of conversation? Share any practical examples with the group and maybe even invite them to ask you for feedback on when you gather next week.
* As we seek to partner with God in making disciples, how are we doing ourselves in these three areas of being with Jesus; becoming like Jesus and doing what Jesus did? Are there ways we can ask Him to help us in this as we seek to model and invite others into a life of discipleship?
* Which of these three (be with Jesus/become like Jesus/ do what Jesus did) do you struggle most with. What practical suggestions can you offer one another to help in your journeys towards deeper discipleship?
* Tim used the “3 – T idea” of Telling; Teaching and Tending – that God invites us to tell others about Christ; Teach them how to follow Him and Tend to their growth as disciples of Jesus. Some ways we can do this include: inviting people to Alpha; volunteer in one of the children’s groups; telling/teaching and tending to those in your own family as well as your friends and colleagues… are there other ways that you have explored and experienced Telling; Teaching and Tending?
* If the outward expression of your submission to Christ through baptism is something that is foreign to you, discuss that with your group now and feel free to reach out to Ed/Sarah at church if you’d like to explore the opportunity of being baptised next month here at HTC.

 **Pray for Three!** Are there three people that you can pray for together as a group that God is laying on your heart to invite into the opportunity of becoming His disciples? Pray for these people as a group now.