

MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS

Matthew 28:19-20

Key Verse: 28:19a

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.”

Jesus died on the cross for our sins and after three days rose from the dead according to the Scriptures. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus redeemed us from the power of sin and death. By his grace we became joyful disciples of Jesus. After Jesus' death, his disciples were weak and lacked faith. Then Jesus planted resurrection faith in their hearts by revealing himself to them and personally meeting with them. Jesus is the King of kings and the Sovereign Ruler of heaven and earth. Above all, Jesus is the Commander-in-Chief who watches over the whole world.

What command did Jesus give to his disciples? Look at verse 19a. “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations....” After planting resurrection faith in his disciples, Jesus gave them the mission to make disciples of all nations. This command of our Commander-in-Chief who rules heaven and earth still applies today to all Jesus' disciples, including us. The phrase “all nations” includes the people of Germany, the people of China, the peoples of all Middle Eastern nations and all peoples of the world. We must, therefore, make disciples of Jesus beginning right here in the campuses of Germany. How can we obey Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations?

First, help our Bible students to confess Jesus as their Christ and baptize them. Look at verse 19b. “... baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit....” Here, “baptizing” means for God's people to confess Jesus as their Christ before God and people. Therefore, to make disciples we should help God's sheep to accept Jesus as their personal Savior and confess Jesus before God and people. This is not easy. It is possible only through the work of the Holy Spirit. We must be patient and babysit God's sheep until they meet Jesus personally.

Second, teach the Word of God and help them to obey it. Look at verse 20a. “... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” In order to raise disciples of Jesus, we must diligently teach the word of God and help people to obey it. These days, young college students find it hard to study the Bible one-to-one. They find it even more difficult to obey what they have learned. We should accept the fact that making disciples is hard. Nevertheless, we must teach the word of God patiently and help them to obey the Bible. I pray that we may take up the mission of raising disciples of Jesus to the end.

What promise did Jesus give to his disciples who take up this mission? Look at verse 20b. “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” What does this mean? This means that Jesus will be

with his disciples until his Second Coming. He will lead them in the way of God and provide for all their needs. This also means that Jesus will protect his disciples from all kinds of danger. At the time, the disciples were very weak in faith. However, when they trusted in Jesus' promise and went to Asia Minor and to Rome, Jesus was with them through the Holy Spirit. Jesus revealed his power and absolutely protected his disciples.

In conclusion, Jesus died on the cross and rose to life in three days. Through His death and resurrection, he forgave our sins and redeemed us from death. He commanded us to go and make disciples of all nations. Each of us must begin with one-to-one Bible study on the campus he has called us to serve. We must continue this until we make disciples for all of China, North Korea, Muslim Nations and all the world.