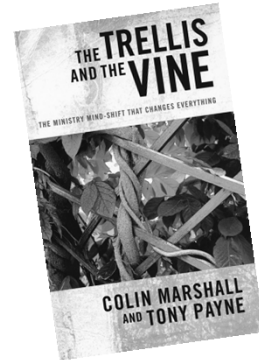


EVERY DISCIPLE MAKING DISCIPLES



Part One: *What is our Mission?*

EVERY DISCIPLE MAKING DISCIPLES

What is Our Mission?

➤ Two Qualifications:

1. We are not asking what is our ultimate purpose but what are we (followers of Jesus) sent into the world to do ("mission")
2. We are not thinking about everything we do or might do as followers of Jesus but the one, essential thing we are called to do

What is Our Mission?

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

What is Our Mission?

Matthew 28:18-20

1. Central Command: "Make Disciples"

- disciples are those who believe, follow, learn from and obey Jesus and His teaching
- discipleship consists of supreme allegiance and submission to Jesus as Savior and Lord

What is Our Mission?

Matthew 28:18-20

2. Chief Characteristics

- “baptizing” – sign of repentance, forgiveness and identification with Jesus and His people
- “teaching” – ongoing instruction in the commands of Jesus with the goal of obedience

What is Our Mission?

Matthew 28:18-20

➤ *Implications*

- making disciples of Jesus is the primary, essential mission of disciples of Jesus
- *disciple-making* entails both evangelism/conversion and instruction for spiritual growth (“transfer” and “transform”)

What is Our Mission?

The Book of Acts: A *Test Case*

1. The Commission Restated

“but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

What is Our Mission?

The Book of Acts: A *Test Case*

2. Two Central Activities

- proclamation of the gospel for the conversion of unbelievers (almost every chapter)
- nurturing of disciples for spiritual growth (2:42-47; 4:23-31; 5:12; 11:23-26; 14:21-23; 15:30-35; 16:5; 18:27; 19:9; 20:2, 7-12, 18-35)

What is Our Mission?

The Book of Acts: A *Test Case*

3. “Growth” of the Word

- 6:7 – “word of God kept on spreading”
- 12:24 – “word of the Lord continued to grow”
- 19:20 – “word of the Lord was growing mightily”

What is Our Mission?

The Book of Acts: A *Test Case*

3. “Growth” of the Word

“the vine is the Spirit-empowered word, spreading and growing throughout the world, drawing people out of the kingdom of darkness into the light-filled kingdom of God’s beloved Son, and then bearing fruit in their lives as they grow in the knowledge and love of God.” (Trellis and the Vine, p. 37)

What is Our Mission?

Our mission is to make disciples of all peoples
through the Spirit-empowered speaking of the
Word of Christ (the gospel)