

Mission Possible: Teach
February 12, 2017
Lynn Haven UMC

Introduction

Jesus went everywhere in Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the Good News about the kingdom of heaven, and healing all the people's diseases and sicknesses. (Matthew 4:23 NCV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20 NIV)

Digging Deeper

We are able to continue Jesus' ministry and fulfill our mission when we teach...

WITH ALL AUTHORITY

- You might be thinking, "Me? Teach? I am not qualified!" We have all been given the gift of God's Word in The Holy Bible. When we immerse ourselves in its truth we become educated in His Word. When we are educated, we can speak with confidence about the truth of our Lord and Savior to all who have ears to hear. How much time do you spend in daily Bible study? Much like the famous joke about how to eat an elephant, did you know there is a trick to memorizing Scripture? Take one verse at a time!
- Talk about the many ways that memorizing Scripture can serve those with a true desire to teach and make disciples of all people who have ears to hear.

ALL PEOPLE

- A powerful way to teach others about the love of Jesus is by example. Just as Jesus demonstrated His love in service, we must follow suit. Do you view acts of service as teachable moments? What about as an opportunity for the teacher to become the student?
- As the founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, said, ""Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can." All the people. While it may seem awkward at first, but praying with a stranger or inviting them to church might be the very thing they were waiting for to finally try and figure out what this whole "God thing" is all about. Have you invited someone to church recently? How did you go about it? If you haven't, invite someone today and follow up with them about this request.
- Is there someone in your neighborhood, workplace, gym, favorite hangout, etc that you have felt God nudging you to approach about attending a Bible study, prayer event, or maybe even our upcoming Renewal conference? What is holding you back?

ALL THINGS

- “Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.” (Matthew 28:20a NLT) Jesus instructs the disciples to teach others to obey all His commands. Not just be aware of them, but to be obedient to them. How can we move from simply quoting the Bible to helping others live out their faith in practical ways? How does this work in your own life?

ALL THE TIME

- “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20b NIV) Does this assurance provide you with peace? What are some things we can say or do that would demonstrate this truth to others so that they might be able to experience it for themselves?
- As Christians, we have an obligation to project the light of Jesus for all to see so as not to be a deterrent, but rather a lamppost that guides people to Him. Does the awareness of Christ’s constant companionship help keep you accountable when determining how you react to difficult situations or people?

Conclusion

You and I don’t have to have all the answers, because we have the Teacher of all teachers with us all the time. Speaking through His Holy Spirit, Jesus is able to carry on His ministry through our teaching. Jesus has given us a mission that seems daunting, but is entirely possible when we go with all authority, teach all people to obey all the things of God, and operate with the assurance that Christ is with us all the time. That’s a formula for doing the same things Jesus did and even greater things. Let’s join together in prayer for success so that we might “make disciples” for Jesus Christ. And let us commit ourselves to continuing Jesus’ ministry by being both a learner ourselves, and a teacher of others.