***Discipleship Series: Discipleship and World Mission***

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“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)

# Introduction

The importance and urgency of discipleship and world mission is vital for us to understand. It is something we hear often in churches, but we may not fully grasp the reason and what it means to disciple others and this mission that was imparted to us by the one and only, Jesus Christ. In this sermon, Pastor Daniel shares with us how to understand discipleship as Jesus understood it, as well as the mission He entrusted unto us.

# Jesus did not have just any mission. He had:

* A GLOBAL vision (Matthew 28: 18-20)

Jesus was the first man in the world to talk about vision and mission. In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus instructed His disciples to spread the news of His word and His salvation to the ends of the earth. This is something that cannot be found in any other religion in the world. No other religious teacher has instructed their followers to go out in obedience and spread their teachings to the world like Jesus did. He had a vision that encompassed the whole world and everyone in it.

* An UNMATCHED mission (Luke 4:18, 19)

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” (Luke 4:18, 19)

Jesus was given a specific anointing by the Lord to set out to proclaim good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, and proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour to His people. This was the mission He was given and the mission that He fulfilled in a powerful and wonderful manner.

* An UNSURPASSED blueprint for the kind of society to build (Exodus 20:1-17)

Jesus had a map for the transformation of the world – The 10 Commandments. He had a blueprint for the transformed society He had the vision of, instructing us how to live as godly people and to contribute to the society He wants to build.

* An UNBELIVABLE manifesto (Matthew 5-7)

We may all know The 10 Commandments by heart. We may all know in our heads that we should not murder or lie or commit adultery. However, Jesus took all these commandments a step further. (for example, if we have anger in our hearts with our brothers and sisters, we are subject to the judgement of murder; if we look at another lustfully, we have committed adultery etc.) Jesus already had a layout of how we should live as God’s people. However, as humans, we often stray away from our calling and we do not live up to the standards of how Jesus intended for us to live. But Jesus has shown us through His example of living by the way the Lord has called us to live and the example we ought to be to those around us.

# Jesus’ mission and discipleship to His own people (Mark 3:13-15)

“Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons.” (Mark 3:13-15)

* Jesus calls us TO Him (vs. 13)

We are called to a relationship with Christ and to allow Him to walk with us every day of our lives. That’s where our journey of discipleship and world mission starts – through having a relationship with Christ and growing in Him.

* Jesus calls us to be WITH Him (vs. 14)

We can only grow to love Him and know Him when we are with Him. Jesus calls us to walk closely with Him and to grow to be like Him.



* Jesus calls us to be SENT OUT to preach, teach and to have authority (vs. 14, 15)

Our focus must always be beyond the walls of our church. We should always look out for others and for those who are struggling in life and who are in need of help. We are called to lead these people to God and to share the great love He has for His people.

# An example of Jesus’ mission and discipleship to the Gentiles (John 4:4-10)

* The PLACE of engagement (John 4:6)

 “Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.”

It was a well known culture in those days that Samaritans and Jews do not see eye to eye and they do not associate themselves with one another. However, Jesus broke this barrier, as He engaged in a conversation with a Samaritan woman.

* The POINT of conversation (John 4:7)

 “When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?””

All it took to engage in a conversation with the woman was for Jesus to ask if she could get Him some water. Think about points of conversations you can strike up with your non- Christian friends. Sometimes, it can be as simple as asking them if they need anything.

* The PREJUDICE of the woman (John 4:9)

“The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)”

Do not let your prejudices and pre-conceived judgements of others disrupt you from journeying with them and walking with them. We should not impose our bad experiences and assume the worse on everyone we come across. Rather, love them and show kindness to them, as Jesus shows to this woman.

* The PROMISE of the Saviour (John 4:10)

 “Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”” (John 4:10)

Jesus has promised everyone who believes in Him a life filled with His light and His grace. We will be surprised as to how ready and willing people are to receive Him into their lives. Are we willing to accept Him and trust in Him?

* The PROCLAMATION of the woman (John 4:39)

“Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.”” (John 4:39)

People can encounter Jesus in wonderful and miraculous ways. All it takes is for us to make a move in obedience, and witness the chain reaction that step can cause.

* The PROCESS of discipleship (John 4:40-42)

“So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”” (John 4:40-42)

The works of discipleship is powerful. Everyone is waiting to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Some even ready to receive it. All it takes is just for us to go in obedience to disciple His people.

# Conclusion

Discipleship is not just for the pastors and great leaders of the church. It is a calling to everyone who believes in Jesus Christ. The mission He left for us is right at our doorsteps. We have many foreign workers here along with foreign students. We do not have to go far. A simple act of opening our houses for fellowships, praying for our friends and families and even just taking some time out for those in needs are steps we can take to disciple someone. There are many more people than we know who are waiting for someone to share the love of Christ with them. There are many more people than we know who are ready to receive His word into their lives. Are you ready to be used by God in carrying out the great vision He has for the world?



Sermon Summary contributed by Phoebe Leong

Prayer Points contributed by May Ng



SERMON: Discipleship and World Mission

Pray:

* For God’s people to rely on Him to live a righteous life according to His standards.
* We will have a deeper walk with Jesus.
* Awareness that world mission takes place everywhere and for His people to do His work.
* More to have a right desire to be in a relationship with Jesus.
* Faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work.

***Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. (Psalms 96:3)***

**MINISTRIES & EVENTS: Special Meeting with Pr Philip Lyn**

*On 30 June 2017, Pr Philip Lyn is scheduled to speak in Dream Centre.*

Pray:

* Wisdom on speaking what God intends to convey to His people.
* Journey mercies for the speaker and those who are travelling to Dream Centre.
* High attendance for the meeting.
* Great fellowship and sharing among the speaker and all involved in the meeting.
* Peace and joy to be imparted to those in attendance.

***“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. (Joel 2:28)***

MALAYSIA MY NATION: Bully

*A naval cadet and a teenager in Malaysia recently died as a result of alleged assault and bully.*

Pray:

* Raising of the family as a cornerstone in the building of a responsible society.
* Parents to parent children in a God-fearing manner.
* God to touch the family of the victims to comfort them.
* The Holy Spirit to flood parents, teachers and authorities with wisdom on educating children.
* Discernment to know right from wrong from social media influence.

***Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.” (Deuteronomy 31:6)***

 **A TRANSFORMED WORLD: Singapore Lee Family Feud**

*Both siblings of PM Lee Hsien Loong issued public statements on their family house – Mr Lee Kwan Yew’s Estate, as one of their major topic of dispute with the brother. It is said that PM Lee has used many ways, even abusing his authority as a political figure, to keep the family house when the late Lee Kwan Yew wished to demolish it.*

Pray:

* The siblings coming to an agreement and to reconcile on how best to deal with the situation.
* Truth and transparency to prevail in the governing of Singapore.
* Righteousness in Singapore as a shining example for other countries in the world.
* Responsible reporting in the media.
* Greed and corruption to be done away with.

***Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. (1 Thessalonians 5:15)***