

VILLAGE

CHURCH

Bible Study Notes

Intro: can you list all the metaphors in the Bible for the Church?

Pray: For Village to be living in community with one another

Read: Matthew 28:16-20

What does the text say & mean (observe/comprehend):

- What's the context for Jesus' command? What gives Jesus the authority to command us/who do we need to remember is speaking?
- Why do you think this is what Jesus wants us to do? How does it fit with the big picture of creation? Consider Genesis 1:26-28, Isaiah 65:17-19.
- What does it mean to make disciples? How are disciples made? See Romans 10:9-16
- How is Jesus with us in this work and why is that good to know?

What does the text mean for us (apply):

- What are all the reasons we should seek to tell people about Jesus?
- Have you tried to encourage someone to consider Jesus recently? How did it go?
- What do you find hardest about being faithful to Jesus' command?
- How can we work together/encourage each other to be 'on mission'?

Pray: write down three non-Christians per person to pray for.

Homework: invite one person to Village or to watch Life Series.

Remind: Village 2.0 changes coming starting 4th term.

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Over the next three weeks we are going to consider what it means to be Grounded in Christ, Living in Community.

- Week 1 we'll examine how we can be deeply Grounded in Christ and why.
- Week 2 is exploring Living in Community as God's people (as a Church) and then
- Week 3, it's Living in Community with the people of our town (non-Christians).

- **What's the context for Jesus' command? What gives Jesus the authority to command us/who do we need to remember is speaking?**

Jesus has been crucified and raised from the dead. He has shown himself to be our Savior & Lord and the hope of sinners. He commands us to continue his work of gathering all his people under the banner of his salvation and lordship. We need to remember this command comes from the one who saved us to lead his people into his good Kingdom.

- **Why do you think this is what Jesus wants us to do? How does it fit with the big picture of creation? Consider Genesis 1:26-28, Isaiah 65:17-19.**

God created us to image him, glorifying him and rejoicing in his glory. His purpose since the fall has always been save a people and restore them to this purpose in a new creation.

- **What does it mean to make disciples? How are disciples made? See Romans 10:9-16?**

Disciples are made by hearing the word about Jesus and believing in it. We make disciples through initially spreading the word of Jesus and then continuing to teach/encourage people to grow in their love and knowledge of Christ.

- **How is Jesus with us in this work and why is that good to know?**

Jesus is with us always by his Spirit who dwells in his people. This is why we can have confidence that even if we are not good at speaking or perfect in our faithfulness, that God can work through us.

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What does the text mean for us (apply):

- **What are all the reasons we should seek to tell people about Jesus?**

List all the reasons. Maybe you could write them on paper or a whiteboard.

- **Have you tried to encourage someone to consider Jesus recently? How did it go?**

Encourage people to share their experiences (they don't have to be recent).

- **What do you find hardest about being faithful to Jesus' command?**

Discuss the obstacles to following Jesus' command in Matthew 28.

- **How can we work together/encourage each other to be 'on mission'?**

Encourage the group to reflect on how we can spur each other on in obedience to Jesus' command.