

**Title:** Know God's Word

**Passages:** Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 5:11-6:3

## Introduction

- Question: What are we here for?
- Answer:

*Trinity Community Church Ministry Vision:* to bring glory to God by building up and equipping its members for living out the Gospel in every facet of life. ("Building it up; Living it out")

## Passages

### Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*"

### Ephesians 4:11-16

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, *for building up the body of Christ*, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, *we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ*, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, *makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.*

## EXPOSITION

*Passage Overview:*

Matthew 28:

- The Great Commission
- What is God's plan for you

Ephesians 4:

- How to implement the Great Commission
- How you can fulfill God's plan for you

*Question:*

Once become a believer in Christ, why doesn't God just immediately transport us to heaven?

- Answer: Matthew 28
- God wants us to be instruments to go out and seek and save the lost.

Luke 19:10 (Jesus' example)

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

***“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”***

### ***All authority in heaven and on earth***

- Meaning = power, authority to do whatever one pleases or desires.
  - Where? In heaven and on earth (i.e. everything)
- How? Jesus is God
  - proved by resurrecting from the dead

### ***In heaven***

- Meaning = over all the spiritual realm (angels, demons, etc.)

### **Ephesians 6:12**

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

- including Satan (nothing can occur without God’s permission)
- Application: When you feel discouraged or anxious, recall Who is on the throne and still in control. God has something greater in mind that we cannot see. In the meantime, we can trust in Him.

### ***on earth***

- Meaning = over every human being on this planet
  - No one does whatever they do but submitted to the authority of God.

### **Job 12:13-25**

“With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding. If he tears down, none can rebuild; if he shuts a man in, none can open. If he withholds the waters, they dry up; if he sends them out, they overwhelm the land. With him are strength and sound wisdom; the deceived and the deceiver are his. He leads counselors away stripped, and judges he makes fools. He looses the bonds of kings and binds a waistcloth on their hips. He leads priests away stripped and overthrows the mighty. He deprives of speech those who are trusted and takes away the discernment of the elders. He pours contempt on princes and loosens the belt of the strong. He uncovers the deeps out of darkness and brings deep darkness to light. He makes nations great, and he destroys them; he enlarges nations, and leads them away. He takes away understanding from the chiefs of the people of the earth and makes them wander in a trackless waste. They grope in the dark without light, and he makes them stagger like a drunken man.

- Truth: ultimately, God is in control. Satan is allowed to exist and influence but according to God’s plan.
- Charles Spurgeon: *“The sovereignty of God is the pillow upon which the child of God rests his head at night, giving perfect peace.”*
- Implication: Because Jesus has all authority, you can have the courage to speak to people

### **Matthew 10:28**

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

- because all authority belongs to Christ, we can go out and present the Gospel without fear of consequences.

### Matthew 16:17-18

And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

### *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations*

- Go = “while you are going”
- Main verb/focus is “make disciples”

### *Make disciples*

- Meaning = teach the Gospel and build followers of Christ.

### John 20:21

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”

### Luke 6:40

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

- to be a follower of Christ means to be like Christ including making disciples.

### 2 Timothy 2:1-2

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

### James 1:22

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

### *baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

### *How make disciples?*

#### 1. *We share the Word/Gospel*

- implied: you must share the Gospel so that the person can either reject or receive it.
- Gospel = Good news
  - Contrast: bad news that we are sinful while God is holy.
  - Nothing we can do to be righteous before God
  - But God sent His only Son (Jesus) to die on the cross, resurrected on the third day, and by believing in Him

#### 2. *We exemplify the Word*

- believe in Jesus Christ, there has been a transformation in his life, and symbolize what has happened (symbol of sins have been washed away, transformed, and now part of Christ’s body)

### Acts 2:38

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- Baptism is the first commandment after believing in Jesus.

### Acts 9:18

And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized;

- baptism = you declare to the world Who you are living for.
- Baptism = a sign and seal that the old life has died and raised to new life in the resurrection power of Christ.

*teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*

#### 3. *We teach the Word*

- Discipleship occurs in the framework of relationship and in teaching.
- Teaching that builds upon the foundation of Christ.
- Contrast: be aware of superficial teaching and growth

### Hebrews 5:11 - 6:3

About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits.

*And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

#### 4. *We rely on the Holy Spirit*

- Discipleship is not dependent upon our own effort and energy but rather on God.

### John 15:4-5

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

### Application

#### *At home*

- Edify and encourage your wife

### Ephesians 5:25-26

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

- Train your children in the Lord

### Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

***At church***

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Titus 2:3-7

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity,

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.