



PERSONAL STUDY GUIDE

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

BIBLICAL EMPHASIS:

We show our love for Christ by obeying His commands.

MAIN POINT:

The call to evangelize is a command. When we are not engaged in reaching out to the lost, least, and lonely, we are being disobedient to a clear command of Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Many people do not evangelize because they have not been taught how or because they are scared. What are some different methods or approaches to evangelism you have been taught over the years? (The Roman Road, the Bridge Illustration, Three Circles, etc.) Can you point to any of these as being influential in your own salvation story?
- 2 What are some fears or hesitations that keep people from sharing the gospel?
- 3 Regardless of how we feel about sharing the gospel, why must we? Why does God involve us in this effort?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

> Read John 14:15-19.

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

- According to John 14:15, how are followers of Jesus expected to act? In addition to loving one another, what are some of the specific commands Jesus expects us to follow?
- Now look at John 14:16-19. What is one benefit of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives? How does the Holy Spirit help us be obedient to Jesus?
- What is an area where you would like the Spirit to help you grow in obedience to Jesus?

- In verse 18, Jesus used adoption language to talk about His relationship with His followers. Spiritual adoption changes the way we live. Does your level of obedience to Christ bear witness to the reality that you are a child of God? Explain.

> Read John 14:20-21.

²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.

- If we know Christ, why should that drive us to go to those among us who are lost, least, and lonely?
- Just because we don't have the gift of evangelism, we must not believe it's not our responsibility. Specifically, how does the Holy Spirit help us obey Jesus through evangelism?

> Read Matthew 28:16-20.

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- What are some barriers to evangelism that keep Christians from actively sharing their faith?
- Who all has the responsibility to make disciples? Why?
- Look again at Matthew 28:18. Before Jesus commanded the disciples to go and make disciples, what did He tell them? How does that truth give you hope as you share the gospel with others?
- Jesus didn't say "make converts," He said "make disciples." What is a disciple? How do we obey this command as individual disciples? How do we obey this as a church?

APPLICATION

] The church is not a building; it is the people of God reaching out to the lost, least, and lonely. With this in mind, are you being the church? Are you living in obedience to this command of Jesus?

- 2 What would have to change in your life for you to be more effective in evangelism and discipleship in the lives of others?
- 3 What are some specific ways our group can help those outside the church see Jesus this week or this month?

THIS WEEK

- Memorize John 14:21.
- Read Luke 19:1-10 on Monday
- Read Luke 15:1-7 on Tuesday
- Read Luke 15:8-10 on Wednesday
- Read Luke 15:11-32 on Thursday
- Read Matthew 9:35-38 on Friday
- Read Mark 2:13-17 on Saturday