

Carry On the Mission of Jesus: The Unexpected Adventure

On an Adventure with Jesus – Making Disciples: Impacting the world

August 25, 2015 Karl Baptist Church

Purpose: To encourage the congregation to embrace the great commission personally with a desire to go on an adventure with Jesus being a worker making disciples in God's Kingdom

Welcome:

I count it a privilege to be with you this weekend

It has been a privilege to get to know Pastor Rick over the past year. You need to count it a joy to have a pastor who has a heart and desire obey the great commandment and fulfill the great commission. Pastor Rick has a great heart, is good teacher and is seeking what is best for you as a church.

I have also enjoyed working with Amie and watching her give her life to making disciples and desiring to make a difference for God's kingdom.

This morning I want to you think about going on an adventure with God in the presence of His Son and in power of the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever been on an Unexpected Adventure?

When Jesus said in Mt. 4:19

The disciples had no idea this would take them from a simple ordinary to making disciples throughout the world.

An unexpected journey for me came when I won the lottery

When I received orders to go to Germany

Mali Africa; one of my biggest unexpected adventures

To thrive or survive

Two photos

How many of you have seen The Hobbit: an unexpected adventure

Gandalf: I'm looking for someone to share in an adventure. The world is not in your books and maps. It's out there.

Bilbo Baggins: I can't just go running off into the blue! I am a Baggins of Bag End!

Gandalf: You'll have a tale or two to tell of your own when you come back.

Bilbo Baggins: ...Can you promise that I will come back?

Gandalf: No. And if you do... you will not be the same.

Let's look at Bilbo Baggins invitation

This is something to think about: If you desire to see God at work, experience His power, grow in His wisdom, and have stories to tell than go and an adventure with God, be His disciple and seek to make disciples.

Five times between the resurrection and the ascension Jesus communicated this Great Adventure to His disciples at different location on different occasions with different emphasis.

1. John 20:19 – 21 The day of the resurrection Jesus appeared to His disciples

“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, **I am sending** you.”

2. 8 days later Mark 16:7 “go into all the world... to the whole creation”

3. One - two week later Jesus on a mountain in Galilee Jesus said as recorded in Matthew 28:16 – 20 “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ **Therefore go and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in^[a] 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.”

4. About 40 days after the resurrection Jesus said to them Luke 24:44 – 48

“...**repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.** ⁴⁸ **You are witnesses of these things.** ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

5. **The day Jesus ascended He said: Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit comes up on you and you shall be my witness both in Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.”**

This mission given to the disciples became an Unexpected Adventure

An adventure we read about in the book of Acts as the Disciples were **going and making disciples.**

The early church: **Disciples were Reproducing Disciples Acts 6:7 The disciples were increasing**

A Disciple is one who places faith in Christ seeking first the kingdom of God and taking steps to be like Him and encouraging others to do the same.

The first disciples were ordinary and uneducated people who had been with Jesus. They were making a difference in their communities winning the lost and teaching them to obey God.

It was not there education, position, or wealth that made the difference. It was being with Jesus and seeking to do His work.

This morning let's look at three of the five passages in more detail I mentioned earlier.

As we look at the first passage: John 20:21

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, **I am sending** you."

Did you hear what Jesus said: "As the Father has sent me, **I am sending** you."

A number of times Jesus gave us insight as to what the Father sent Him to do as Jesus said, I

- Luke 19:10 I Came to seek and to save the lost
- John 10:10 I Came that they might have life and have it abundantly
- John 7:18 I Came to work for the honor of His Father
- Mark 10:45 I Came not to be served but to serve
- Matthew 9:13 I Came to call sinners to repentance
- John 8:29 I Came to do the things that pleases the Father
- John 17:4 I Came to glorify My Father and accomplish His work
- John 17:6 I came to manifest My Father's Name

Today Jesus is sending us to do the same. These verses can now read:

Jesus is sending us to seek and to save the lost
 Jesus is sending us to work for the honor of His Father
 Jesus is sending us not to be served but to serve
 Jesus is sending us to call sinners to repentance
 Jesus is sending us to do the things that pleases the Father
 Jesus is sending us to glorify His Father and accomplish His work

Being a disciple of Jesus is doing for Jesus what Jesus did for His Father

The Second teaching concerning this unexpected Adventure came one to two weeks after the resurrection:

Matthew 28:168- 20

Jesus 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^[a] 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."

Discipleship is a process, it is moving down a pathway that goes into eternity. It is not class you complete. You do not get a certificate. It is a life changing process becoming more like Jesus and helping others do the same.

So the question is:

What did Jesus do to make disciples?

- Established a Relationship with people: He wanted people to be with Him, to see Him in various circumstance and ministry opportunities. I think Jesus would have been fun: swimming, water fights, fishing contest, and other such activities and for us we need to be developing relationships with people where we live, work and play.
- Explained the Father & the Scriptures to them: Sermon on the Mount, Faith talks like in the boat, teaching the crowds, the scribes, the tax-collectors, etc. John 1:18 No one has seen God...Jesus has explained Him. For us today it is having a discussion with one or two people centered around the word seeking to become like Jesus.
- Equipped them for ministry: by getting them involved in ministry

Have you ever heard of the American Managements Association motto?

"Getting work done through people"

Yet when the Gallup Organization studied great managers they concluded

Great managers really get people done through work.

This is what Jesus did in developing the disciples:

He was making disciples through ministry, they did not have it all together, yet he had them go, proclaim and build up the kingdom God:

- Sent out the 12 & 72 they did not have it all together

The harvest is plentiful: we are called to go:

- People within 5 miles of this church are **seeking**: trying to understand this world, life & death issues, is there a God?
- People within 5 miles are **crying**: because marriage issues; loss of job, alcohol, disease and wayward sons and daughters, grown children not speaking to parents;
- People within 5 miles are **hurting because of sin or immorality, debt, distress, living condition, loneliness, etc.**

And Jesus gave them rest, peace, joy, courage, and grace

We need to get involved with people

Let's look at Bilbo Baggins toward the end of the first movie and his reason to stay on the adventure.

Video

Gandalf: Well, why does it matter? He's back!

Thorin Oakenshield: It matters. I want to know - why did you come back?

Bilbo Baggins: Look, I know you doubt me, I know you always have. And you're right... I often think of Bag End. I miss my books, and my armchair, and my garden. See, that's where I belong, that's home. That's why I came back... 'cause you don't have one, a home. It was taken from you. But I will help you take it back if I can.

Carry on the Mission of Jesus by being His disciples and begin to disciple others.

You see He left His home because he knew we did not have one:

Adam & Eve lost the home

We have tried to make this world our home

But the people of faith in Hebrews was longing for their eternal home

As believers this is not our home: we are strangers

We need to help others find their home

Application:

Get involved in a ministry

Get involved with being disciplined or discipling others

Get involved with the lost

Benediction**Father thank You for**

Sending us – Give us perseverance to Go

Commissioning us – that we might be a witness and make disciples

Reproducing your life in us and through us

This week may we grow in

- Your Wisdom to guide
- Your Grace to strengthen
- Your Spirit to prompt
- Your Power to do Your work
- Your Authority to establish
- Your Presence in this great adventure