



# BIBLE READING NOTES

## disciple, baptise, teach

### PREPARE

How would you define what discipleship means? What is a disciple?

### BIBLE PASSAGE

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and **make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,** <sup>20</sup>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 vv 18 – 20)*

Last week we looked at the first part of this passage as Jesus gives the Great Commission – the mission statement – to his followers. Today we are going to consider verses 19b – 20.

1. The primary focus of the Great Commission is to make disciples. What characteristics should a true disciple of Jesus bear? Look at Luke 6 v 40; Luke 14 v 27; John 13 v 35; John 14 v 15. What is most exciting to you about being a disciple and what are you most afraid of? What are you most reluctant to do?
2. What do you think baptism signifies to the new believer? Look at Romans 6 v 4. The Bible talks frequently about being changed inwardly and not relying on external appearances to appear ‘saved’. Why then is baptism important?
3. Why is verse 20a also an important part of the Great Commission? Look at Acts 5 v 42 to see how the early believers went about carrying out this commission. Do you think this continues to be an important focus today for believers – both to seek maturity themselves and to help others to mature?
4. When we are discipling people, should we be teaching them how to disciple others? How soon should we expect new Christians to take this mandate seriously?





# BIBLE READING NOTES

## EXPLORE

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. <sup>27</sup> The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

<sup>31</sup> They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." <sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. <sup>33</sup> At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. <sup>34</sup> The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household. *(Acts 16 vv 29 – 34)*

As Christians, the question 'what must I do to be saved' is the most important question someone can ask. Do you agree?

What was it (v.26) that prompted the jailer to ask this question?

Reflect on the significance of Paul and Silas' response to him, and the impact it had going forward. What can we learn?

## RESPOND

Look at verse 18 and at verse 20b.

How are we empowered to carry out this Great Commission?

What do we need to remember and reflect on today?





# BIBLE READING NOTES

## PRAYER

Thank you Jesus for our mission statement – the Great Commission. Thank you that you bookend this with your promise of being given all authority, and your promise to never leave us. Help us to lean on your strength and find a new passion to tell people about you, and to encourage other believers in their faith. We need to keep growing towards maturity ourselves – keep our hearts and lives open to you.

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS THE FINAL GOING DEEPER BIBLE STUDY FOR NOW.**

**I HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED USING THEM AND THEY HAVE HELPED YOU TO BUILD ON WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD ON SUNDAYS.**

