



SESSION 1: GOSPEL IN COMMUNITY

THE GREAT COMMISSION VS. THE GREAT OMISSION

MAIN TEXT: MATT. 28:16-20 (NIV)

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."

KEY TEACHING POINT:

THERE IS A PROCESS OF EVANGELISM GOD HAS GIVEN US: REACHING AND TEACHING.

OPENING DISCUSSION:

What did Jesus specifically mean when he said to "go and make disciples" of all nations? Why does it seem this part is omitted sometimes as part of the gospel plan?

What is your greatest fear of beginning the discussion on evangelism with a stranger (or friend)? How do you overcome that?

How is global missions more "glamorous" than community missions? Why is that?



TEACHING

STABILIZING

VISUALIZING



- **REACH OUT TO THE COMMUNITY**

Mobilizing them...Making disciples...of all nations.

*Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must **deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.** 24 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. 25 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? 26 Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. (Luke 9:23-26, NIV)*

- ⇒ How important is it that we teach discipleship as the first part of the salvation process? What stops us?
- ⇒ How is this like the "limited commission" in Luke 10? How would it help for you to be able to go out in pairs vs. by yourself?

Baptizing them...in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 **We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.** (Romans 6:1-4, NIV)*

- ⇒ How can we better teach the importance of baptism to those who have never heard about it?

- **TEACH OUT IN THE COMMUNITY**

Stabilizing them...to obey everything.

*11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for **works of service**, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all **reach unity** in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and **become mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

- ⇒ How would it help stabilize and mature someone to know their spiritual giftedness?

Visualizing Him..."I am with you always".

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

(Deut. 31:6, NIV)

6 The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid.

What can mere mortals do to me?

7 The Lord is with me; he is my helper.

I look in triumph on my enemies.

8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord

than to trust in humans.

(Psalm 118, NIV)

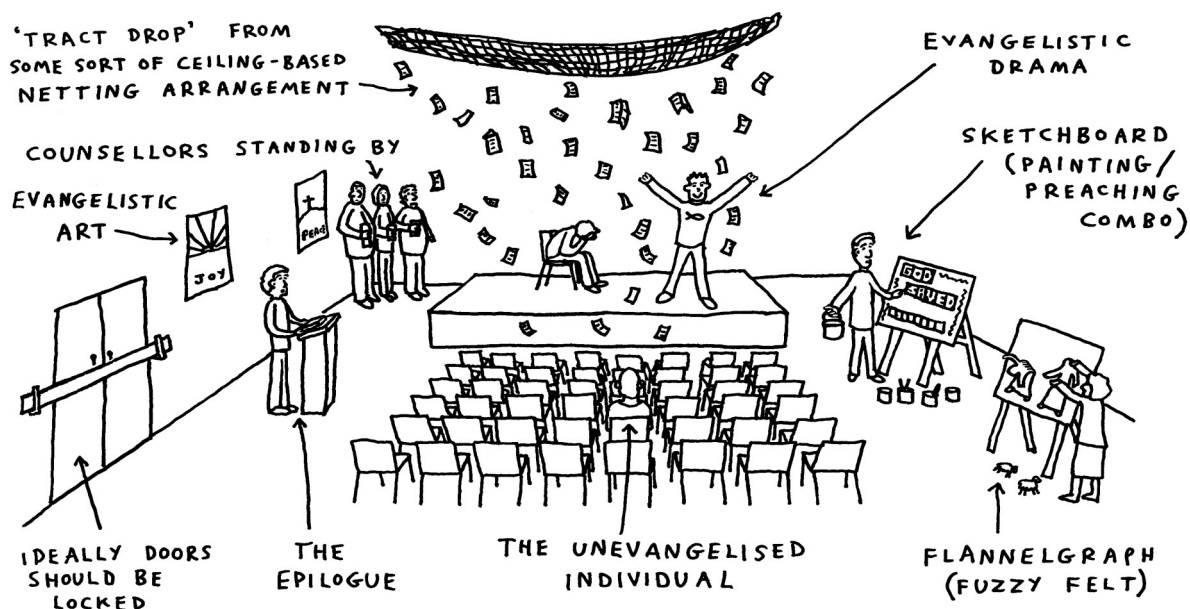
⇒ How does it give us strength to overcome our fears in visualizing Jesus as being with us always?

FINAL DISCUSSION:

- How does this discussion fit in with the way you were taught growing up about evangelism? What is the same? What is different?
- How can we overcome our own fear of reaching out and sharing the gospel to those we don't know (fear of not knowing enough, fear of pushing them away, etc)
- What does it mean to help "stabilize" people as part of the evangelism process?
- How can we visualize Jesus as we go through the community? How does this help give us the courage to reach out to others that may be different from us?

OUTREACH

THIS IS WHERE WE GATHER TOGETHER AT THE CHURCH AND HOPE THAT SOMEONE COMES IN. THESE ARE SOME COMMON OUTREACH METHODS:



THESE PROCEDURES MAY BE COMBINED WITH COFFEE (COFFEE MORNING) SINGING (SEEKER SERVICE) OR FOOD (ALPHA COURSE) IF YOU LIKE