

Sunday, May 30, 2021
Chapelwood's Great Commissions
Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-47, John 20:21

BIBLE S.W.A.P.

S- Scripture: Read the parallel passages from all four Gospels.

The Commissioning of the Disciples in Matthew 28

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

Jesus Commissions the Disciples in Mark 16

¹⁴ Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples in Luke 24

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Jesus Appears to the Disciples in John 20

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I

send you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

W-What Does it Mean and What Can I Obey?

The Church has always had a clear mission given by Jesus. Each of the four Gospels gives us a different part of Jesus' mission. Taken together, they give us clarity of purpose. Make notes of what each passage says about:

What we are called to do.

How we are called to do it.

Why we even do it at all.

A-Apply

Based on your reading and listening to the sermon, what does it mean to you to reclaim Jesus' mission for the Church?

If you could paint a picture of what Chapelwood will look like coming out of the pandemic into a new and exciting future, what would you include in the picture? What's the focal point? What is the setting? What's in the background?

As you ponder the Scripture, listen to the sermon, and respond with words and perhaps a picture or other image, what is God revealing to you about the church's mission and your role in it?

Commit to sharing your thoughts with a fellow church member. What actions will you take in response to Jesus' commissioning of YOU and your local church?

P-Pray

Jesus, we lift up our hearts, minds, bodies, souls, and spirits to You as you send us out into the world with meaning and purpose. Fill us with your Spirit, so that we might share the Gospel with renewed love for all the world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*Going Beyond the Sermon is written by Teresa Rossy, Director of Adult Discipleship,
Chapelwood United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas.*

Source material is quoted throughout. The sermons are streamed online, and worship is in person at 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary of our Greenbay campus. Go to www.chapelwood.org for details.

To get Going Beyond the Sermon in your inbox, e-mail Laura Frost, lfrost@chapelwood.org.