

Whoever finds his life will
lose it, and whoever loses
his life for my sake will
find it.
Mt 10:39

Share the teaching
Guard the sharing

Male Call

September 29, 2007—*The Great Commission: Discipleship—Part VII*

6:00 – 6:05	1) Coffee & Donuts 2) Opening Prayer
6:05 – 7:00	1) What do these verses say to you about: a) Your discipleship? b) Making disciples? Jesus said, “The foremost is, ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mk 12:29-31) All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. (Mt 28:18-20) Jesus said, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” (Jn 3:6-8) Jesus said, “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (Mt 7:13-14) And Jesus was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.” (Lk 9:23) “He who does not take his cross and follow after Me [Jesus] is not worthy of Me.” (Mt 10:38) “Not everyone who says to Me [Jesus], ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will

say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’” (Mt 7:21-23)

Paul writes, “But if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.” (1Cor 8:3)

We love, because He first loved us. (1Jn 4:19)

“For this reason I say to you, her [adulteress] sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little.” (Lk 7:47)

“If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. (Jn 15:10)

And [the rich man] said to [Jesus], “Teacher, I have kept all these [commands] from my youth up.” Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, “One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” (Mk 10:20-21)

“No one can come to Me [Jesus] unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.” (Jn 6:44)

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.” (Rev 3:20)

Paul writes, “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.” (Rom 10:8-9)

But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his [David’s] appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God *sees* not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” (1Sam 16:7)

Jesus said, “But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.” (Lk 8:15)

“If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” (Jn 8:31-32)

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” (Mt 11:28-30)

	<p>They [new disciples] were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42)</p> <p>Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." Jn 3:16</p> <p>But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!" (Mk 10:24)</p> <p>Jesus said, "...the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you." (Jn 14:17)</p> <p>Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. (Jn 14:23)</p> <p>NOTES:</p>
7:00	Closing Prayer

Some Major Themes (seeming paradoxes):

- There are only two choices:
 - Don't follow Jesus
 - Follow Jesus
 - This way is hard to choose
 - This way is easy to walk
- We must be:
 - Born again; born of the Spirit, we have a new Father or Master
 - Persevere until the end
- To be born again, we must be:
 - Drawn by the Father; and
 - Choose to:
 - Deny Ourselves;
 - Take up our cross daily; and
 - Follow Jesus
- The only important question is whether God knows us
 - To be known by God is to love him
 - To love God is to keep his commands
 - It is more than keeping his commands, it is our heart orientation
- God loves all mankind!! Believers can only love our neighbor because God first loved us and we must recognize how much we have been forgiven
- We must be in community
- The process is a mystery