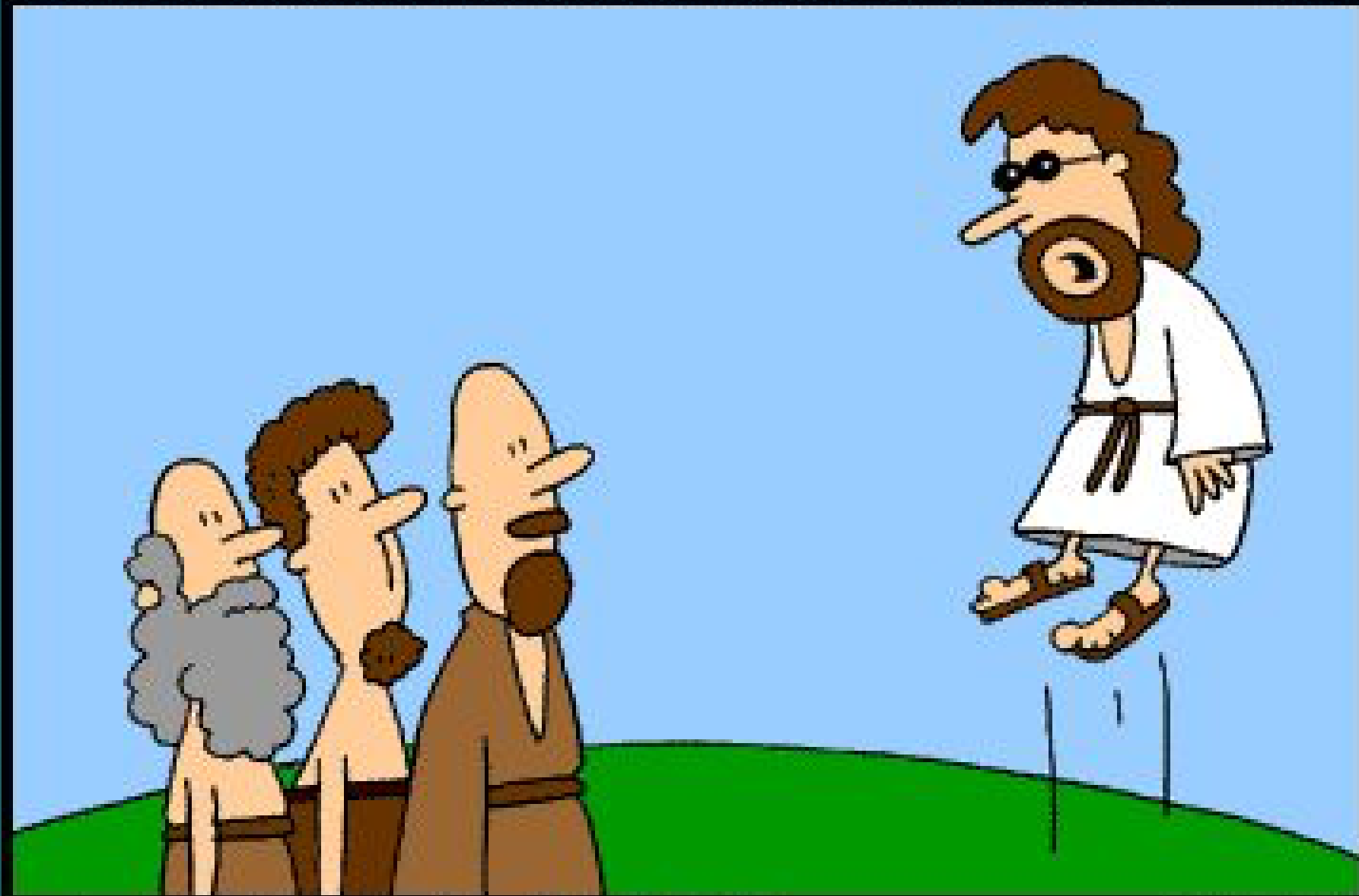


Why are we here?



Thanks to Kent Kocher (See Acts 1:10-11)

04-06-1999

I'LL BE BACK

Great Commission

Scripture	Who	What	To Whom	How
Matt 28:19-20	Disciples	Go make disciples	All nations	Baptizing and Teaching
Mark 16:15	Disciples	Go preach good news	All creation	
Luke 24:46-49	Disciples	Be Witnesses	All nations, beginning in Jerusalem	Preaching repentance and forgiveness of sins
John 14-17	Disciples	Bear fruit, Testify about me	The world	Love one another
Acts 1:8	Disciples	Be my witnesses	Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, ends of the earth	With power

Jesus's Example

- ▶ Preach:

Now after John was imprisoned, Jesus went into Galilee and proclaimed the gospel of God. He said, "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the gospel!" (Mark 1:14-15)

- ▶ Call disciples:

As he went along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, Simon's brother, casting a net into the sea (for they were fishermen). Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will turn you into fishers of people." They left their nets immediately and followed him. Going on a little farther, he saw James, the son of Zebedee, and John his brother in their boat mending nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him (Mark 1:16-20).

Jesus's Example

- ▶ Teach:

Then they went to Capernaum. When the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people there were amazed by his teaching, because he taught them like one who had authority, not like the experts in the law (Mark 1:21-22).

- ▶ Send:

Now Jesus went up the mountain and called for those he wanted, and they came to him. He appointed twelve (whom he named apostles), so that they would be with him and he could send them to preach and to have authority to cast out demons (Mark 3:13-15).

One of the disciples got overly excited after Jesus gave them power to drive out demons and heal the sick.

Andrew, we need to talk.



Peter

- ▶ Preach

But Peter stood up with the eleven, raised his voice, and addressed them: . . . Therefore let all the house of Israel know beyond a doubt that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:14-36).

- ▶ Call disciples:

Now when they heard this, they were acutely distressed and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "What should we do, brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:37-38).

- ▶ Teach:

They were devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer (Acts 2:42).

Paul

- ▶ Preach:

So Paul stood up, gestured with his hand and said, “Men of Israel, and you Gentiles who fear God, listen: . . . Therefore let it be known to you, brothers, that through this one forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by this one everyone who believes is justified from everything from which the law of Moses could not justify you (Acts 13:16-39)

- ▶ Call disciples:

As Paul and Barnabas were going out, the people were urging them to speak about these things on the next Sabbath. When the meeting of the synagogue had broken up, many of the Jews and God-fearing proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who were speaking with them and were persuading them to continue in the grace of God (Acts 13:42-43)

Paul

- ▶ Teach:

So Paul entered the synagogue and spoke out fearlessly for three months, addressing and convincing them about the kingdom of God. But when some were stubborn and refused to believe, reviling the Way before the congregation, he left them and took the disciples with him, addressing them every day in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. This went on for two years, so that all who lived in the province of Asia, both Jews and Greeks, heard the word of the Lord (Acts 19:8-10).

- ▶ Send:

So after sending two of his assistants, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia, he himself stayed on for a while in the province of Asia (Acts 19:22).

Paul's Exhortation to Timothy

- ▶ Preach:

I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: Preach the message, be ready whether it is convenient or not, reprove, rebuke, exhort with complete patience and instruction (2 Tim 4:1-2).

- ▶ Call disciples, Teach and Send:

And entrust what you heard me say in the presence of many others as witnesses to faithful people who will be competent to teach others as well (2 Tim 2:2).

Challenges

- ▶ Not everyone who hears will follow:

Now some of the experts in the law were sitting there, turning these things over in their minds: "Why does this man speak this way? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Mark 2:6-7).

- ▶ Some may even persecute you:

Remember what I told you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they obeyed my word, they will obey yours too (Mark 15:20).

- ▶ Even family:

Then Jesus' mother and his brothers came. Standing outside, they sent word to him, to summon him. A crowd was sitting around him and they said to him, "Look, your mother and your brothers are outside looking for you." He answered them and said, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who were sitting around him in a circle, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother" (Mark 3:31-35).

Challenges

- ▶ Not all who are called will come:

As Jesus looked at him, he felt love for him and said, "You lack one thing. Go, sell whatever you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." But at this statement, the man looked sad and went away sorrowful, for he was very rich (Mark 10:21-22).

- ▶ Not all who follow believe:

After this many of his disciples quit following him and did not accompany him any longer (John 6:66).

Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, came in, and he saw and believed (John 20:8).

- ▶ Some who follow may even betray:

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus into their hands. When they heard this, they were delighted and promised to give him money. So Judas began looking for an opportunity to betray him (Mark 14:10-11).

Reach
Teach
Multiply

Reach

- ▶ Public proclamation of the Gospel
 - ▶ Church Service, Revival Meeting, Evangelism Crusade
 - ▶ One on One Discussions (think woman at the well)
- ▶ David Geisler and Norman Geisler, *Conversational Evangelism: Connecting with People to Share Jesus*, (Harvest House, 2014).
 - ▶ Make Friends
 - ▶ Have Conversations (steer toward spiritual)
 - ▶ Listen Carefully
 - ▶ Ask Probing Questions (highlight inconsistencies)
 - ▶ Offer Alternatives
- ▶ Planting Seeds and Harvesting

Teach

- ▶ Wisdom (skills in life) – Bible and Behavior
 - ▶ “teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matt 28:20)
 - ▶ Greatest commandment (Matt 22:36-40; cf. Rom 13:8-10)
- ▶ Study, Apply then Teach

Now Ezra had dedicated himself to the study of the law of the LORD, to its observance, and to teaching its statutes and judgments in Israel (Ezra 7:10).
- ▶ Study breaks down into Observation, Interpretation and Correlation

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF?
NOW THAT'S A RADICAL IDEA!



Observation

- ▶ Active Reading
- ▶ Mortimer Adler, *How to Read a Book: The Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading*, (Touchstone, 1972).
- ▶ Many Different Questions
 - ▶ Who? What? Where? Why? When? Wherefore?
 - ▶ Genre, Structure, Primary Themes
 - ▶ Setting, Character, Plot
 - ▶ Metaphor, Imagery, Emotion
 - ▶ Argument

Interpretation

- ▶ Trying to answer the question:
What was the author trying to accomplish with his audience?
- ▶ We can't ask the author and he does not always clearly tell us
- ▶ We must depend on the clues in the text
 - ▶ Who was the author?
 - ▶ Who was the audience?
 - ▶ What do we know of the situation?
 - ▶ What genre did he choose?
 - ▶ How did he structure the book?
 - ▶ How do the pieces interrelate?
- ▶ Hermeneutical Spiral

Correlation

- ▶ How was this text interpreted through time?
 - ▶ We are entering into a long-running conversation.
 - ▶ Many theories have been tested, applied and accepted/rejected.
- ▶ Use elsewhere in the Bible (same book, same author, Canon)
- ▶ Early Church Fathers
- ▶ Commentators and Theologians

Application

- ▶ What is the significance for a modern audience?
- ▶ We should do whatever the author was trying to get his audience to do—at least to the extent that we overlap with the original audience
- ▶ General Principles

Multiply

- ▶ Replicate Oneself
- ▶ Encourage and Support Disciples to Make More Disciples
 - ▶ We now become a resource for our disciples that they can come to with questions, problems, etc.
 - ▶ Plan to be replaced in every ministry
 - ▶ Must teach how to study, apply and teach!
- ▶ Apostle = Sent One