

“Greeting Team”

For Sunday, March 12th

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go “welcome” people! NOTE: Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

Greeters this week:

Justin Taylor Sunday Night

- 1st— D. Mastbergen Thursday PM; Jen Hagler Thursday PM
- 2nd— Justin Taylor Sunday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Sunday Night;
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon; Tackett Sunday Night

Small Groups @ MBC

Meet A Minimum
Of 2 Times A
Month

Announcements

1. Looking For A Bible Study Website? Go to www.studylight.org for tons of resources & helps!
2. Book Recommendation? Bonhoeffer by Eric Metaxas. You won't be able to put it down!

You Can't Do Anything Without Jesus!

The beauty of Christ's Commission, to us, is in its simplicity—“Go... make disciples of all the nations.” As you “go” through life, be “making disciples.” Making disciples needs to be a regular rhythm of your life. That's what Jesus was getting at! It's hard to imagine how that could be misunderstood. As a teenage convert, to Jesus, the hard part was understanding it; but, doing it! I understood the command perfectly well; but, carrying it out terrified me! I'd nearly go into a cold sweat every time I thought about sharing my faith with my high school friends. How could I ratchet up the strength and courage to do it? How would I know the right things to say? It wasn't until many years later when someone finally shared with me, from Scripture, that I didn't have to depend on my ingenuity to convince people they needed Jesus! I couldn't arm-wrestle anyone into the Kingdom if I tried! In John 15, Jesus tells us that plan will never work! No one has ever come to Christ because of a big beautiful church building; or, a “professional” Worship Band; or, a multi-media experience! The work, of regeneration, is God's work ALONE! We cannot do the work of God in our own strength—“*I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing*” John 15:5. This is at the end of Jesus' earthly ministry; and, He's preparing His disciples for His departure. “*I will build My Church,*” He told them, “*And, I'm going to use YOU!*” But, they had to get one thing straight—“*You can't do it without ME! I am the Vine, you're just the branches,*” He taught them. All the LIFE & all the POWER & all the RESOURCES to fulfill His Great Commission came from Him! And, the key to being a branch that produces fruit, Jesus said, was to be connected to Him, the Vine! If we're not abiding in Him we'll shrivel up and die, Jesus says in v.6. We can't make disciples in our own strength— by reading books about making disciples; or, witnessing to 5 people a week; or, memorizing Scripture; or, making ourselves accountable to someone else. That's NOT where we find the POWER to do Jesus' work! He alone is the source! This is one of the most devastating mistakes any Church ministry can make— doing God's work “in the flesh.” Man's effort won't get it done!



God Is Glorified When We Ask Him To Do It

The work of God gets done; and, He is glorified when we ASK Him to do it! Back to John 15, vs. 7-8 “*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified,*” Jesus says, “*that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*” Jesus does the work, of God, for us & through us! Making disciples is HIS WORK! Every spiritual work is a supernatural work & only Jesus can do the supernatural! We're just a branch; but, when we're tapped into Jesus Christ, the Vine, He does great things through us; and God is glorified! “*Ask what you desire,*” He says. God is pleased when we pray for things according to His will! “*And it shall be done for you,*” Jesus says. The work of God can only be done by God! God answers when we ask Him for leading to & wisdom in communicating with unbelievers! It's God who draws those to Himself who will be saved!