

## Just Make Disciples!

### “Greeting Team”

#### For Sunday, May 8th

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— Erickson 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

*Are Gatherings Of 6-12  
People That Meet With  
The Goal Of Knowing &  
Experiencing God,  
In Community, At A Deeper  
& More Intimate Level  
Than Can Be  
Accomplished Alone*

### Announcements

1. A Great Website: Check out [www.thegospelcoalition.com](http://www.thegospelcoalition.com)  
Great resource on many topics!
2. A Great Read:  
“The Trellis And The Vine”  
by Marshall & Payne  
(Subject: Making Disciples)

The book of Romans is a letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the believers in the Church of Rome. It was a church that had no political clout in the Roman empire! It was a persecuted church; but still, an effective church, because its methods were simple— *just make disciples!* When the church is busy fulfilling the commission that Jesus gave her, she will become relevant in the world! Now, lest I be misunderstood, let me be clear that I’m NOT against political and government involvement! In fact, quite the opposite. For the believer, there is no “secular.” Everything is sacred! God owns it all & is Sovereign over all! It is part of our responsibility, as stewards, to be informed. To know the issues & to vote our conscience as we view everything through the grid of Scripture. But, politics and government cannot be where you place our hope! Or, you will be sorely disappointed; as many believers are here in the West! Nowhere, in Scripture, are we called to create a “Christian nation.” Nowhere in Scripture are we given such a mandate. Neither are we called to legislate righteousness! We are called to preach the Gospel & to make disciples. That is our mandate! If we’ll trust God & His plan, rather than the political process, we’ll see our nation & our local communities change 1 disciple at a time. That’s what we see in the book of Acts; and, history bears it out—that the power of the Gospel changed entire cultures over time. Rome was no exception. The Church may have endured great persecution at the time that Paul wrote this book; but within 300 years of Jesus’ crucifixion, the Gospel had done such a powerful spiritual work in the Roman Empire, that many historians claim that more than half the population had become followers of Jesus. The 1st chapter of Romans is one of the more significant texts in the Bible. I encourage you to read it often & become familiar with its content. From the start, Paul focuses on the Gospel: *“Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle and singled out for God’s good news— which He promised long ago through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures— concerning His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord...”* Paul says he was “singled out” to proclaim *“...God’s GOOD NEWS...”* The word is εὐαγγέλιον (in the original Greek) or “GOSPEL.” So, he’s sharing the Good News of the Gospel, which he says *“...CONCERNS God’s Son, Jesus Christ our Lord...”* And in v.8 he says, *“First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you because the news of your faith is being reported in all the world ...”* Their faith in the Gospel, Paul says, was having an impact on the whole world!



## Turned The World Upside Down

When Paul & his entourage went to Thessalonica with the Gospel, it created such a stir that Acts 17 says, *“...these men have turned the whole world upside down...”* The power of the Gospel outperforms the power of the people every time! Be faithful, church! If you truly have a heart for change in our nation; then, first ask God for a bigger heart for Him; and, second, ask Him for a bigger heart for people! Ask Him for a heart big enough to love hard-to-love people, and to share the Gospel with them. Only His Gospel will change the culture & course of our land. Only when the Church returns to the mission Jesus gave her, will she become relevant in the world once again! Nothing is happening in our nation that a revival couldn’t change! A revival of the Church! *“Judgment must first begin at the house of God”* (1 Peter 4:17). We have to love the lost! We need to establish relationships with them! Have them in our homes!