

Spreading the Gospel Devotional



“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” *Matthew 28:19-20*

Before Jesus’ time on Earth was complete, he spoke to His disciples and gave them a very important assignment. Reach the world with the gospel! His time on Earth was short. How was He going to continue saving lost souls when He was no longer going to be here?

When Jesus was here in the flesh, there was one of Him, and millions of people. However, when He left this Earth physically, the infilling of His Spirit was Jesus living in the hearts of men, which allowed Jesus to be in many places at one time!

Telling His disciples to make disciples throughout the nations probably sounded like a daunting task, until they understood what Jesus was doing, and how He would continue His work through born-again Christians.

And now, over 2000 years later, that’s where we come in! Read the following scriptures and answer the questions.

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1. What did Jesus tell His disciples to make and teach? _____

Matthew 5:14-16: “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

2. What did Jesus say we are? _____

What are the characteristics of light? _____

Where are Christians supposed to let their light shine and why? _____

Romans 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."

3. What does the gospel do? _____

Who can receive salvation? _____

2 Timothy 2:15: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

4. Why is this scripture important for spreading the gospel? _____

What word in this scripture tells us what we should be (the answer is not "one approved")? _____

Psalm 40:1-3

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.

"I waited patiently for the Lord;
he turned to me and heard my cry.
He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.
He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in him."

5. This is an example of what a personal testimony may sound like. Think of your own experience with meeting God and write a short summary of your personal testimony.

ANSWERS AND ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS ON EACH SCRIPTURE

1. *Make disciples and teach them to obey everything He commanded them. It is important to notice that Jesus told them to do two things that take time. In other words, a one time visit with someone who wants to follow the Lord is not enough. They need time spent with them to know how to follow Jesus, and what the commandments are so that they can obey the Lord.*

2. *Jesus said we are the light of the world.*

Light makes things visible and clear. It shines. Even in dark places, the closer someone is to the light, the clearer things are. Living in a dark world filled with sin, when we let our light shine (when we are a living example for the Lord), His light shines in us, and people can see that light in us.

Jesus wants us to shine because He wants to save the souls of men and women, and He works through people to do so. When He has been so gracious to fill us with His Spirit, He wants us to help others experience His grace too!

3. *It brings salvation to everyone who believes. There are no exceptions. God offers salvation to every continent, every race, every culture, every rich person, every poor person, every old person, every young person.*

4. *Because in order to share the gospel with others, we need to know the gospel ourselves! No worries-not everyone knows the Word of God from front to back within a month of beginning their spiritual journey. However, regular reading and study is important and necessary for the Christian who wants to grow.*