

Sermon Notes

May 7, 2017

“Our Mission Statement”

Matthew 28:16-20

Pastor Bill Hoffman

Given how the word was used in his day, what does Jesus mean by “disciples”? In verse 19, what two elements does Jesus say are involved in making disciples and what does he mean by these?

Note that Jesus’ call to make disciples is preceded by a declaration of his universal authority (verse 18) and followed by a promise of his constant presence (verse 20). How might these serve as motivation to be about making disciples?

Fundamental to making disciples is being and growing as a disciple (a follower of Jesus) yourself. Some diagnostic questions we considered previously to evaluate our own discipleship:

- Do you know the good news of Jesus?
- Do you believe it?
- In what ways does your life reflect, and not reflect, that you believe it?

If every activity of East Main Church were evaluated in terms of how it contributes to our being and making disciples, what would be more emphasized? Less emphasized?