

Disciple the Nations

Go and make Disciples

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

This is one of the most important “therefores” in the Bible. What is the verse before this?
Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me (v.18).
Jesus has commissioned us for the task of discipling the nations.

Clearly making disciples is not just about making converts. It’s something much more difficult and time consuming.

Baptizing them...This is a real commitment to follow Jesus

Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you

Jesus’ own example shows that this is much more than a classroom based teaching. It is a lifestyle, shared life together, day-in, day-out. It is intentional time with younger believers to help them to grow to spiritual maturity.

Three generations – pass it on

..and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also (2 Tim 2:2 English Standard Version ESV)

Nations and people – how are we doing with the task

The Greek word for nations is “Ethnos”, which means all ethnic groups or people groups.

There are 196 countries and 16 000 people groups in the world. A huge number (7000) of these are called “Unreached people groups”, most of them are in the 10:40 Window area. In spite of this many missionaries go to areas that are already reached. The job is not done! Jesus’ commandment to reach all the nations with the Good News is still relevant for us today.

Mission here and ends of the world

All nations are on our doorstep and Europe has become one of the biggest mission fields – what an opportunity for the Western church to reach them with the Good News!

The question is not; “whether you are called or not” but rather are you called to go or stay. We are all called to be part of God’s mission and to disciple others. Start where you are. Don’t wait for a special call to do something. The Bible is already clear what we all ought to do – to disciple nations.

In order to disciple others we ought to be good disciples ourselves – to surrender and be obedient. Don’t try to get God onboard with what you are doing but get on board to what God is doing in this world.