

Ekklesia: Discovering Beauty of the Church

Sunday, March 28, 2021

Matthew 28:18-20

Introduction

“The church lies at the very center of the eternal purpose of God. It is not a divine afterthought. It is not an accident of history. On the contrary, the church is God’s new community. For His purpose, conceived in a past eternity, being worked out in history, and to be perfected in a future eternity, is not just to save isolated individuals and so perpetuate our loneliness but rather to build His church, that is to call out of the world a people for His own glory.” Sinclair Ferguson

***The Ekklesia is excited about Jesus
and helps others to grow in their excitement***

I. The Mission and Distraction

“We run the risk of marginalizing the one thing that makes Christian mission Christian: namely making disciples of Jesus Christ.” Kevin DeYoung

We want to make sure that the point of emphasis is the gospel of Jesus Christ!

II. The Mission of the Church (v.18-20a)

v.18 – “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

*“The mission Jesus is about to give is based exclusively and entirely on his authority. There can only be a mission imperative because there is first this glorious indicative. God does not send out his church to conquer. He sends us out in the name of the One who has **already** conquered. We go only because he reigns.” Kevin DeYoung*

“The Church is the Church only when it exist for others.” D. Bonhoeffer

A. Go

“Go” – Going implies being sent!

“Go proclaiming into all nations” – going implies proclaiming the gospel!

B. Make

“make disciples” – implies obedient and mature men and women

“baptizing them” – implies repentance and forgiveness; inclusion God’s family

“teaching them” – implies more than response; disciples not converts!

“Helping People Get Excited About Their Relationship With Jesus”

III. How is this Mission Possible? (v.20b)

v.20b – “And behold I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

IV. The Mission Statement of AGCC

“Helping People Get Excited About Their Relationship With Jesus”