

CHAPTER 10 – SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8, NIV)

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

Matthew 28:1–20

The last chapter of Matthew focuses on messengers of Jesus' resurrection—the angel tells the women, the women tell the disciples, the disciples tell the nations, and even the guards tell the religious leaders. Please read Matthew 28.

1. In the beginning of Jesus' ministry, John the Baptist prepared the way. Now, after the resurrection, the angel prepares the way (vv. 2–7). In what ways is a messenger, or witness, helpful in preparing for faith in Christ?

2. Some people come to faith as they grow up; others come to faith after childhood. Either way, there were people who were messengers, or “witnesses,” to you. Who have been your significant witnesses, and what did they do to encourage you to believe?

3. The leaders circulated a rumor that the disciples stole the body to keep people from believing in Jesus (vv. 11–15). What keeps people today from believing that Jesus is the resurrected Lord?

4. The disciples go to Galilee, where they meet with Jesus. How was the experience of three disciples at the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 16:28–17:9) confirmed and expanded on the Mount of Resurrection?

CHAPTER 10 – SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

5. What confirms, affirms, and encourages you to believe the message of Jesus enough to share it with others?

6. In Matthew 28:16–20, Jesus gave to the disciples what we now call the Great Commission. Describe the commission he gives to them and us.

7. How would this commission have sounded to the Jewish disciples? How does it sound to you?

8. The mission on which Jesus sends the disciples calls for baptizing in the name of the triune God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (v. 19). What are you asking people to believe when you invite them into the Christian faith?

9. Baptizing (v. 19) is a rite or an act of confirmation and incorporation into the Christian community. What role does the church, as the community of Christ, have in the task of evangelism?

10. Some see verses 16–20 as indicating that the entire Gospel of Matthew was written as a manual for fulfilling Jesus' command to evangelize, teach, and disciple. What can you do to use the Gospel of Matthew, and the other three Gospels, to empower and encourage you in fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission?
