

Sharing Your Faith Makes Disciples

Our calling to share our faith is rooted in the biblical story of Jesus' ascension into heaven. It was on that day that Jesus gave his disciples the command we refer to as the "Great Commission," to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20). But as we study this important event, we learn that Jesus is not asking us to do anything he has not equipped us to do. He's calling us to share our witness. To tell the truth about what we've seen, what we've heard, and what we've experienced. And he does not leave us alone to figure out how to do this. As we study the biblical accounts of Ascension Day, we'll see that he promises the Holy Spirit, who will give us the power to share our faith and through our ordinary, daily testimony, he will multiply his disciples and increase his kingdom.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Do you think annually marking and remembering the day Jesus ascended into heaven matters? Why or why not?
- What does the term "evangelism" mean? What comes to your mind when you hear the term?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Sharing Your Faith Makes Disciples](#)

READ [Luke 24:46-53](#), [Acts 1:6-11](#), [Matthew 28:16-20](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Do you find the charging a battery imagery beneficial to your understanding of how the Holy Spirit works and why the disciples needed to wait for Pentecost? Why or why not?
- Reread the account of Jesus' ascension in [Acts 1:6-11](#). Imagine what it would have been like to be standing with the disciples. How do you think you would have felt? What do you think you would have wanted to do? How would you have reacted to Jesus' words in verses 7-8?
- Do you find it easy or difficult to talk about faith/Jesus with family? What about friends or strangers? Why do you think that is?
- In segment 2, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss the progressive nature of Jesus' command in [Acts 1:6](#) to be his witnesses "in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Later in segment 3, they discuss the great commission in [Matthew 28:16-20](#) and note "there is a little ambiguity in the Greek verb there. It can also be legitimately translated as "as you are going, witness." Think about the near and far places you inhabit as you are going about your regular life. Where are these places for you? What relationships do you already have in these places? What would it look like for you to witness in these spaces?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Acts 8](#), [Exodus 3:1-4:17](#), [Revelation 12:11](#)

CONCLUSION

Think about your response to question 3 above. In segment 2, Scott and Darrell discuss the role of a witness to “just say what you know.” Still, with faith, this doesn’t always seem easy and like Moses, we sometimes have fears and excuses—like “I don’t have my act together,” “I’m not an eloquent speaker,” or “I don’t know the Bible well enough,”—that make us hesitant to follow Jesus’ command. Which excuses resonate most with you or would you identify another excuse or fear that hinders your witness?

As we know from many facets of life, practice helps create muscle memory, so consider using the following suggestions in personal reflection, as you journal, or in conversation with a trusted spiritual mentor or peer to help practice what you know:

- Think about what salvation in Jesus Christ means to you. How has it made a difference in your life?
- What are your favorite Bible stories or verses? Why are they meaningful to you?
- Identify significant experiences in your faith life. Recall the circumstances and the details. Why are they meaningful to you? What did you learn about God and his work through them?
- Where have you seen or where do you see God at work?

As you close, remember what Scott said, “Jesus commissioned the doubters to go and witness, too.” Pray about any fears or excitements or peace you continue to feel as you think about your role in evangelism.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/sharing-your-faith-makes-disciples>

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