

EFCDP SERMON NOTES • March 24, 2024

Series: *One Small Step* # 3

“This is Your Life” • Matthew 28:16-20

The Big Idea: *Jesus has given you a guaranteed way to be a success in life.*

1. Don't be discouraged if you follow Jesus and struggle with doubt. Vv. 16-17

2. Your life purpose is to imitate Jesus. Vv. 18-20a

3. Jesus is with you every step of the way. V. 20b

Digging Deeper

A guide for personal and small group study for the week of March 24, 2023.



→ Was any part of the message unclear? Which aspect of the message do you think will be the most challenging to apply to your own life?

→ Do you agree with the “big idea” of this passage? Why or why not?

1. Who are some people our culture regards as successful today?

2. What do your unchurched friends regard as signs of success?

3. If they did a “This is Your Life” show about you, what would be some of the main events you would hope they would feature?

→ What people would you want to be there, who have had the greatest impact in your life thus far?

4. If a “This is Your Life” show was made about someone you have been close to for many years, what would you hope they would remember about your involvement in their life?

5. Have you ever been to a comic book or Star Trek or Star Wars-type convention, where people dress up as their favorite heroes? If you could go to one, what hero would you want to appear as?

→ What parallels to Christian discipleship do you see in this “hero” mentality?

6. Read Matthew 27:62-66 and 28:11-15. How did the efforts of the religious leaders to “secure” Jesus’ tomb help prove the reality of Jesus’ bodily resurrection?

7. Read 1 Corinthians 15:6. If this verse describes the “mountain meeting” of Matthew 28:16-20, how might this explain why some people there were still doubting?

8. Read Luke 24:13-16, John 20:11-18 and 21:4-14. How might these help explain why some people doubted in Matthew 28:17?

9. Do you think it is possible to worship God/Jesus, yet still have doubts in your mind? Why or why not?

10. Read Psalm 103:10-14. How might this passage be a comfort to people who have doubts about God/the Bible?

11. What does it mean to you that Jesus gave His Great Commission to all the people on that mountain, even those who still had doubts about him?

12. Read Daniel 7:13-14. Many scholars believe this was fulfilled in Matthew 28:18-20. Do you agree? Why or why not?

13. Read Ephesians 1:20-23, 2:4-7, and 6:12. Of what value might these passages be in light of our calling to fulfill Jesus’ Great Commission?

14. How would you define what a disciple of Jesus is? How might Acts 2:41-47 help?

- What does 2 Timothy 2:1-2 teach about this?

15. How would you explain the difference (to a young believer) between a Christian “spectator” and a devoted disciple of Jesus Christ? Why does this matter?

16. Read Luke 12:13-21. What does this teach us about what it means to be a “success” in God’s eyes?

17. In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus calls us to make disciples, then he describes what it means to be a disciple. How could you put this in your own words, if you needed to describe this call to a teenager?

18. In Mt. 28:19-20, Jesus mentions water baptism before obeying everything He taught. How might this order of the process of discipleship underscore the truth of Ephesians 2:8-10?

17. Do you feel equipped to help another believer be a devoted disciple? If not, in what areas do you feel you need to grow?

18. Take a moment to think about people around you that God could use you to bring to faith in Him, then discipleship. Write their names down here. After each name, what is the next step you could take to help fulfill Jesus’ call for them to become a disciple of Jesus?