

#### GREAT BEGINNINGS

#### NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION ONLINE CLASS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH RICHMOND

DR. DWIGHT C. JONES, SENIOR PASTOR DR. DERIK E. JONES, PASTOR

**WEEK 2: EVANGELISM AND FELLOWSHIP** 



# Welcome to the fellowship of First Baptist Church of South Richmond!

Here you will be able to complete four of your online classes online. Two of your classes, Stewardship and Ministry, are required to be taken in class on the scheduled session date. Classes are held at Iron Bridge: 8:30AM Sundays, or 7:00PM Tuesdays and Hull Street, 9:30AM Sundays. Please refer to the online schedule for dates for onsite sessions. Contact Rev. Pat Austin for assistance, <a href="mailto:christianed@fbctoday.org">christianed@fbctoday.org</a> or at the church office.



#### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Week 1 – Salvation and Discipleship

Week 2 – Evangelism and Fellowship

Week 3 – Service and Ministry

Week 4 - Worship and Quiet Time

Week 5 – Stewardship (on site)

Week 6 - Spiritual Gifts (on site)

On Site: Sundays, 8:30AM Ironbridge and 9:30AM Hull Street
Tuesdays, 7PM Iron Bridge

\*\*NOTE: No Classes are held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday or the Tuesday Following the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday



### **LESSON GOAL**

To understand our responsibility to "GO" share the gospel (Good News) of Jesus Christ with others for the purpose of leading them into a relationship with Christ. To encourage fellowship in the body of Christ (the church).



### FOCUS SCRIPTURES

Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 5:1-11, and Acts 2:38-47

- Always begin your study with prayer
- Invite the Holy Spirit to lead you into all truth

# WHAT WILL YOU LEARN FROM THIS STUDY?

#### Key Points

- 1. Define Evangelism and its importantance to the church and you as a disciple
- 2. Understand "The Great Commission" and how it helps us to evangelize.
- 3. Learn the importance of fellowship and connecting in the church.

Take a few moments and ponder this -- "How have you felt God's calling upon your life?" Did you know that you are invited to participate in the work of the kingdom inviting others to the joy of knowing Jesus?

"In this Bible study, we will look at some fishermen Jesus invited to make a choice – a big choice – one that would change their lives forever.

"Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." The Bible says at once they left their nets and followed him.



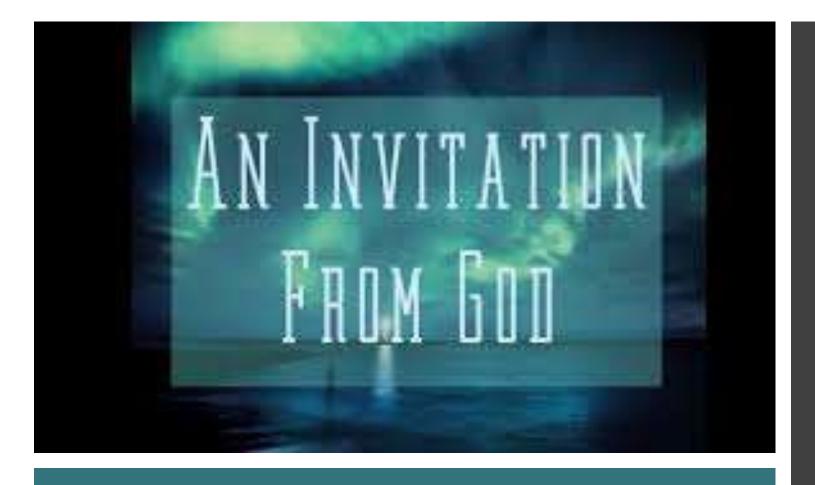
As followers of Jesus, we have been invited into the process of what He is doing.

Evangelism (or the sharing of the Good News) is central to our calling as Christians. The way we experience evangelism and share the Gospel may change, but the mandate to go and make other disciples is required of all believers.

Jesus in this text was saying...

I will be with you always, even to the end of the world.

That means wherever we go, we go representing the message of the gospel - the good news is that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior and that He came to usher in the Kingdom of Heaven where all believers have a personal relationship with God.



# AN INVITATION TO RELATIONSHIP

God has invited us to be in relationship with Him and with other believers. When we are saved, the **Holy Spirit becomes our** teacher and our guide the glue that holds us together in unity with other believers and helps us to demonstrate and share the love of God.



## **EVANGELISM**

**READ LUKE 5:1-11 – FOLLOW ME** 

If you had been Simon Peter when Jesus said, "Put out into the deep, and let down the nets for a catch," what would you have done?

#### **EVANGELISM DEFINED**

A deliberate act of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ to others for the purposes of leading them into a relationship with God.



#### Matthew 28:18-20

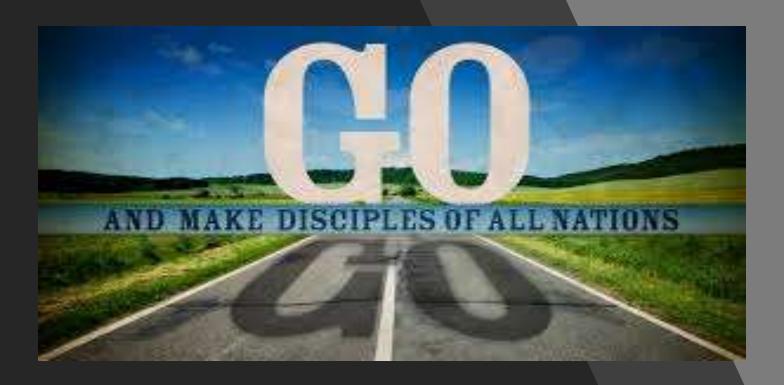
<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."

# THE GREAT COMMISSION

The Great Commission is a charge given by Jesus to those who believe to disciple everyone, everywhere into a personal relationship with God (Matthew 28:19).

It is the last recorded personal instruction given by Jesus to His disciples

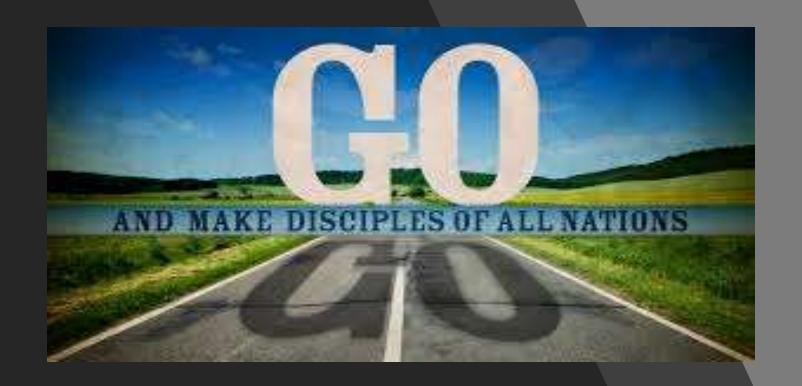
It is a special calling from Jesus Christ to all His followers to take specific action while on this earth.



Living in the Great Commission requires that we become a witness.

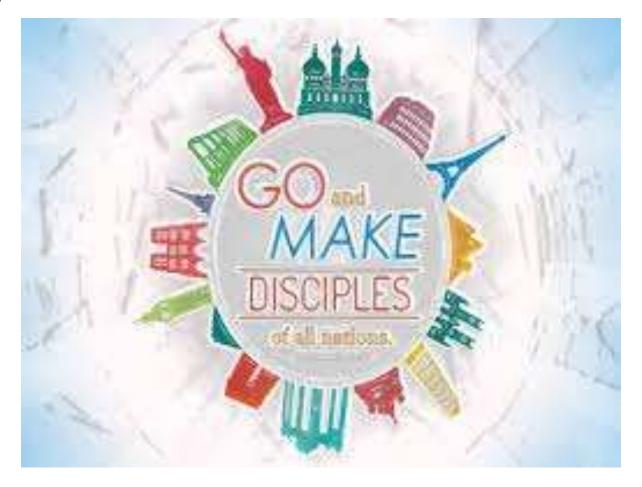
Our journey must reflect a lifestyle that confirms our relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

This relationship is empowered by the Holy Spirit.



Reflect on some ways you can fulfill Jesus' charge in the Great Commission and also for you to be a "fisher of men?"

# WE HAVE A MANDATE TO EVANGELIZE!



# FELLOWSHIP

**READ ACTS 2:38-47...** 





The festival celebrating the decent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after His Ascension.

### **PENTECOST**

God poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit on the followers of Jesus.

Just as the ministry of Jesus depended on the Holy Spirit descending on Him at His baptism, so the ministry of the disciples depended on them receiving the Holy Spirit and relying on His power.

# THE CHURCH BORN 10 DAYS AFTER JESUS' ASCENSION

The Holy Spirit came upon the believers at Pentecost.

 As a result of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, the fellowship of believers described in Acts 2:38-47 had grown by about 3,000.

 This story shows the importance of fellowship and the characteristics of the church.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHURCH

**Worship** (Liturgy, Kerygma) Kerygma means "Good News." The Good News is the story of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. The worship of the people was focused on God and it was vibrant and alive.

**Ministry** follows worship. It is not enough to enjoy a wonderful worship service and do nothing to serve the Kingdom of God. We are all called to be servants, to go serve and make disciples.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHURCH

Koinonia means being together or in fellowship. Every day the people gathered together in the temple courts. They gave witness to the power of Jesus in their lives. Their lives were so transformed that together they were able to perform many wonders and miraculous signs. As a fellowship, the people were able to do works that were far greater than anything they could accomplish as individuals.

They were together. In addition to gathering in the temple courts, their fellowship was extended to their homes. Verses 46-47 tell us that they ate together and had communion together. There is something about sharing a meal that strengthens the bond between those around the table. The time that they spent in fellowship around the table was characterized by "glad and sincere hearts." They simply enjoyed being together.

# QUESTIONS TO PONDER

How is your church fellowship like the fellowship in vv. 42-47?

How could you help your church be more like this church?

How will this example affect how you get involved in your church?

# LIFE APPLICATION

REFLECT ON ONE
WAY THAT HAVING
A PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP
WITH GOD HAS
IMPROVED YOUR
LIFE.

# CENTERING MOMENT

**GOOGLE THE SONG** "FOR EVERY MOUNTAIN". REFLECT **ON HOW GOD'S LOVE AND PRESENCE HAS BEEN A BLESSING IN** YOUR LIFE. THEN **CONSIDER HOW AWESOME IT IS THAT** WE CAN FELLOWSHIP

#### PRAY

Ask God to guide you into a growing spirit of evangelism and to help you embrace the power of fellowship with His people. Pray and ask God for you to engage in the fellowship of the church just as the believers in the first church did in Acts 2:38-47.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

You have completed the Evangelism and Fellowship Great Beginnings Class. Please complete your survey and forward via email to Rev. Pat Austin, Director of Christian Education. You will receive a certificate of completion via email (example on the next slide.)

If you need further discussion of this study, or have questions, please contact Rev. Austin.

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