

Matthew 28:18-20—Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

John 4:34—"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."

Luke 19:10—For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Acts 1:8—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.

Luke 15:1-7—Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

HOW TO BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS

We must care deeply.

Matthew 25:34-40—'...Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

2. We must love unconditionally.

Matthew 5:43-44—You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven...

1 John 4:8—Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

John 13:34-35—A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

3. We must share generously.

See John 3:16; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, 8:1-2, 10:9-10; John 14:6; Acts 4:12

STUDY GUIDE: 2/16/25

Begin your group with prayer. Have one or two people share a testimony from their week. Keep it positive and reflect on the good things God has done.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1.	Read Luke 15:1-7, the parable of the lost sheep. How should this impact our
	thoughts and actions today? Discuss ways we can apply this to our lives.

- 2. Pastor John said, "Share the Gospel and your testimony with sensitivity, humility and respect." What might this look like? What are some practical ways we can prepare to share to effectively share Christ with others? What are some of the things that keep us from sharing our faith with others?
- 3. Read Matthew 25:31-40. What does this teach us about God's priorities? What are some of the different ways we can respond to these verses?
- 4. Read Romans 12:9-16. How do these verses correlate with the parable of the lost sheep in Luke 15:1-7? Discuss.

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