

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH

DAILY READING ASSIGNMENT: **Matthew 26-28**

SCRIPTURE Matthew 28:18-20

OBSERVATION

Many people want to find God's will for their lives. You wonder if you should relocate, change jobs, or marry your boyfriend. These are certainly issues that demand prayer. But they aren't cause to sit idly by while waiting an answer.

There are certain passages of Scripture I like to call "the givens" – things we can know God instructs us to do, regardless of our circumstances. You may not be sure yet if you should move across the country or get married, but it's a given that you can be sharing Christ right now where you are while you wait for your answers.

This "given" is pretty clear and specific. We are to make disciples of all nations, baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey his commands.

But don't worry, Jesus also makes a promise – He will be with us always [v.20].

APPLICATION

Sometimes, when a big decision looms over me, I tend to close myself off from others. This seems like a good idea, but it really just allows me to become narrow-minded and self-absorbed, and way too focused on my circumstances...the opposite of what Jesus calls me to be.

The simple truth is we are called to action in our everyday life. There are people in our natural circles of influence with whom we can share: family, relatives, friends, co-workers, bank tellers, grocery store clerks... the list goes on. I may be the only beacon of light the stressed out cashier at Meijer sees today. You may be tired of hosting vacationing friends and family while you must continue your daily grind. They'll go home soon. But while they are here take the opportunity to share Jesus with them.

Don't be discouraged. Practice seeing other as God sees them. Continue with the daily reading plans and devotions to learn more of what living out this great commission will look like in your life – right here, right now.

PRAYER

Dear Lord, help me to see ways in which I can live out your great commission. Thank you that you will be with me always and that I have nothing to fear. I want others to see your love and salvation in me and I want to be able to tell and show others how they can know you. I ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as I go through my day to help me see and seize any opportunity. *Amen.*

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