



Group Life Leader's Discussion Guide

Date: 4/27/2025

Sermon Title: Now What?

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

Gathering:

As you gather with one another be sure to greet each other and check-in. Ask and inquire from group members how their week has gone? Share that we will close with prayer requests at the end of group today.

OPENING PRAYER (Group leader or someone prays this prayer to open or create a similar prayer.)

Risen Lord Jesus, we gather in your name, remembering the empty tomb and your call to go into the world. As we read your words and reflect together, stir our hearts with your Spirit. Help us to hear your call not just for the early disciples, but for us today. Give us courage to follow, compassion to reach others, and the hope of resurrection life to share. Be present among us, guide our thoughts, and lead us in your truth. Amen.

Opening Question:

1. What's one way Easter changed your perspective this year?
2. When you hear the word "disciple," what comes to mind?

Digging into the scripture texts:

3. What does it mean to live as a resurrect person in your daily life?
4. Verse 17 says, "some doubted." How do you relate to this in your faith journey?
5. What role does the church play in helping people follow Jesus today?
6. How can we teach by example rather than only with words?
7. What part of Jesus' teaching do you find most challenging to live out?
8. How can we ensure that our actions reflect our beliefs, especially regarding Jesus' teachings on forgiveness, loving enemies, and caring for the poor?
9. How does Jesus' promise, "I am with you always," strengthen or encourage you right now?

Sermon Questions:

10. Pastor Cheryl asks have you experienced the 'now what?' moment after significant life events, and how does this relate to the disciples' experience after Easter?
11. The disciples were on top of the mountain being commissioned by the risen Christ. Have you ever had a mountain top experience similar but different than the disciples?
12. In the sermon the "all" in Matthew 28 answers the question of now what, what did these all authority, nations, commanded, and days help you understand what God maybe calling you to do next?

13. Pastor Cheryl explains that the “go” in Matthew 28:19 is better understood as the phrase “as you are going”. How do you understand Jesus’ command to “go” in your context—home, work, school, or community?
14. In what ways can we embody Jesus' command to 'go and make disciples of all nations' in our daily lives and local communities?
15. The sermon talks about being a disciple and follower of Christ is to journey with others? Who are your people?
16. Discuss the concept of discipleship being "not just fast food" but "a feast." What does this mean to you practically?
17. How does Jesus' promise to be with us "always" encourage you in your faith journey?
18. The sermon asks, "Who has taught you the faith?" Share about someone who has been influential in your spiritual growth.

Applying it:

19. Who is someone in your life you might come alongside with grace and curiosity this week? How will you be able to influence them in their faith?
20. Considering Jesus' great commission, what specific actions or changes do you feel called to make in your life to fulfill this mission?
21. What’s one simple step you can take to “go and make disciples” in your own way? Give an example of what you could do this week.

CLOSING PRAYER (Be sure to share any prayer requests or praises and have someone close in prayer.)

Jesus, you are alive, and you are with us. As we leave this time together, remind us that we are not alone and that you have trusted us with your mission. Give us boldness to go, humility to serve, and hearts full of your love. Help us to be a people who carry resurrection hope wherever we go. May your Spirit lead us as we live out your call today and always. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

WAYS TO RESPOND (or challenges for you this week)

1. Identify one area of your life where you can intentionally "go and make disciples" this week.
2. Reflect on Jesus' teachings and choose one specific commandment to focus on obeying more fully in the coming days.
3. Create a simple plan to deepen your own discipleship through study, prayer, or community involvement.