

Message by Pastor John Johnson

June 25-26, 2011

Is Believing Enough

Matthew 10

Questions for Life Groups:

So far in our study of Matthew we have observed Jesus receiving His authority from God in baptism, and demonstrating His authority over disease and illness, over our lives and the issues that concern us, over the elements of nature and even over Satan and his demons. At the end of chapter 9 Jesus looks out over the people with compassion and tells his disciples to pray for more workers like Himself. Now in chapter 10, he calls out the 12 who have followed Him and calls them to move from disciple to apostle—

1. According to verse 7, what is our message? How do put this in language our world can understand?
2. Scripture reveals this movement from seeker to believer to follower to disciple to apostle. Where do you see yourself?
3. Christ gives us five things for the journey. What are they and what might be the one we least understand?
4. What assurances do we have as we embark on this dangerous mission according to verse 1, verse 19, Matthew 28:19.
5. Are you in the story of Village? What might be keeping you from fully stepping in?
6. Read through our Vision Statement.

We are deeply devoted to the Bible and following after Jesus Christ. Like the early church of Acts, we seek to be a place where discipleship is the radical minimum requirement, where every believer is part of the mission, where God's presence is found, where the lonely find a home, the lost find hope and the hurting find grace, and where God is glorified in everything we do. What we believe ...

The power of connection among people and with God is Village's strength. By God's grace we seek to be a church where:

Failure connects with grace ...

as we are all welcomed into God's arms, despite our sins. Ministries

Cultures connect in unity ...

as all people are included in our family. Ethnic Ministries

Emptiness connects with fullness ...

as we find our deepest longings satisfied in worshiping God. Worship Services

Christ connects with world ...

as we spread God's Truth through our words and deeds, person to person.

Global Ministry

Gifts connect with opportunity ...

as we use our God-given talents to meet needs. Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

Our priorities are simple: Village begins with loving God, and because of His character and command, we are moved to love people. With an adventurous spirit we seek to have a great impact in hearts, our community and the world. We seek guidance in God's purpose for the gifts He has given us and invite every member of the Village family to join in shaping this vision and to help make it a reality.

7. How have you experienced this vision in your own life either as a participant or a recipient?
8. Who are you praying for daily, people you know who need Christ? Have you seen God answer these sorts of prayers with unusual open doors?