

## WEEK 4 | DAY 1 - Glorify God in All Situations

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:18-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**PREPARE:** Change your posture before the Lord to one that shows submission and surrender. If you are physically able, get on your knees or on your face in His presence. Remove all distractions. Spend some time talking to God. Acknowledge Who He is and what He is capable of. Ask Him to speak to you through His word.

**READ: Romans 8:28-39**

"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28). This is such a great encouragement. Take a minute and look back over your life. Have there been hard times? What about unexplained moments? Failures? Fears? Wrong actions? Seasons of blessing? Amazing moments? Times of rejoicing? Times of mourning? Tears? Laughter?

"All things God works for the *good*..." Now wait a minute. Before allowing Satan to start inserting half-truths, remember: always place trust and faith into the truth and know that He can definitely use the past and work it out for your good. Yes, even that thing in your past that no one knows about or that you wished would not have happened.

Our past can be something Satan uses to paralyze us in ministry. Sometimes we think that we cannot be used by God because of something that happened to us or something that we did at some point. But you just read that God foreknew and predestined you to be used by Him. He has *called* (set apart to be used by God) you and you have been *justified* (declared or made righteous) and *glorified* (assured of heaven) by the Creator of the world.

If God has done all of this and is for *you*, then who can be against you? You are chosen by God to be here on this trip. Not only were you chosen, but you have a Savior who is at the right hand of God interceding on your behalf (Rom. 8:34). *Nothing* can separate you from the love of God. *Nothing!*

*You* are more than a conqueror through the love of Christ.

When God asks you to step out in ministry today, know that the Almighty God has called you to do all that He leads you to do. *Go* with confidence that you are His chosen instrument.

1. Christ *loves* you! Let that soak in: He loves you. How does knowing that He loves and cares for you help you to step out in faith that He will provide for you?

---

---

2. How does knowing you were chosen by God help you to step out in His ministry today?

---

---

3. As a conqueror, you are to encourage those around you to step out in faith as well. Who is someone at your church that needs some encouragement? How can you spur them on "toward love and good deeds" (Heb. 10:24)?

---

---

4. Has your past paralyzed you from stepping out in obedience? How can you trust God to use your past for your good? Ministry?

---

---

## WEEK 4 | DAY 2 - You are an Ambassador

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:18-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**PREPARE:** Change your posture before the Lord to one that shows submission and surrender. If you are physically able, get on your knees or on your face in His presence. Remove all distractions. Spend some time talking to God. Acknowledge Who He is and what He is capable of. Ask Him to speak to you through His word.

**READ: Romans 10:8-15**

Today, you are proclaiming the Gospel. What a great and mighty responsibility you have. This is your significant task. If you don't share, how will these people hear the truth that sets them free? You have been out sharing the gospel for more than two weeks now. Don't lose heart. Don't miss what God is doing all around you. Many have confessed with their mouth and believed in their heart, just as you read in Romans 10. They will never be put to shame. Each day you go out, there is a formula at work, revealed in Romans 10:13-15. Scripture lists it in reverse order, so I'll lay it out for you.

1. **Sent:** We have been **sent** out by God to share the Gospel.
2. **Preach:** When we are **sent**, we will **preach**.
3. **Hear:** When we **preach**, people will **hear**.
4. **Believe:** When people **hear** the Gospel, they **believe**.
5. **Call:** When people **believe**, they **call** on the name of the Lord.
6. **Saved:** Everyone who **calls** on the name of the Lord will be **saved**!

So here it is. You have been commissioned. You have been **sent**. And to keep the formula going, you must be obedient to **preach**.

**READ: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21**

Paul lays it out. Because of Christ's love, we are compelled to preach. We no longer live for ourselves but for Him. You are a new creation who has a purpose on this earth. You have been sent and given the ministry of reconciliation. You see, God has taken you, a lost God-hater, and put you in right standing before Him. You did not deserve this gracious act, but He lavished His love upon you.

How awesome is that? Not only did He bring you into right standing with Him, but He has given you a ministry. Yes, you read that right: *You have a ministry*, and it is so important that you submit to it. 2 Corinthians 5:20 says, "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God was making His appeal through us." God is making His appeal *through you* to the community where you're serving right now. You are His spokesman or spokeswoman.

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Rom.10:15b)

1. You've been sent by God to make Him known. What's the only way the above formula from Romans 10 can fail to work?

---

---

---

2. How does knowing that formula help remove the pressure you may feel to share the Gospel?

---

---

---

3. God has given you a ministry. List 3 people who are far from God? Ask God to give you an opportunity to share what He has done in your life. Invite them to church with you this Sunday.

---

---

---

## WEEK 4 | DAY 3 - Strong in Christ

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:18-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**PREPARE:** Change your posture before the Lord to one that shows submission and surrender. If you are physically able, get on your knees or on your face in His presence. Remove all distractions. Spend some time talking to God. Acknowledge Who He is and what He is capable of. Ask Him to speak to you through His word.

We have talked about the mission that God has given us. Today we will be reminded that we have an enemy that is seeking to devour us. This enemy is the father of lies. When he lies, he speaks his native language (John 8:44). We read in John 10:10 that Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy. He is out to make sure you do not live out your purpose and identity, so he tells you lies. *And a lie believed as truth will affect you as if it were true.*

Let me explain. My wife is deathly afraid of June bugs. One time while she was driving, I may have indicated (lied) that there was a June bug on her shoulder. She laughed it off as if I was joking but then felt her hair touch her own neck. NOTE: Never mess with the person in control of a vehicle traveling at highway speeds. This woman lost it. She freaked out. I had to grab the steering wheel because at this point, if we died, she couldn't have cared less. Even though the truth was that there was no bug, she believed the lie and it affected her as if it were true. (I may have had to sleep on the couch that night.)

Satan is the father of lies. He will not often tell us the unbelievable but uses what I like to call half-truths. He tells us things that are partially true so we will be likely to believe them. For example: He deceives many into believing they have to be strong. We end up feeling as though if we're struggling, we just must try harder. Here are a few areas where we try to be strong:

1. **Emotional:** We have bought into the lie that we must keep it all together.
  2. **Spiritual:** Many feel the weight of rules and commands of their faith, trying to be some sort of super-Christian. We feel as though we must perform well and wear our "happy, praise Jesus" face around certain people.
- Social:** Many get so bogged down in trying to fit in that they involve themselves in every activity possible, even if this keeps them away from church. They compromise with the world and end up looking like it.

**READ: Isaiah 40:30-31**

In the original language, the word used for "youth" actually means "Olympic runners." So just think, even the best of the best gets tired and weary. You see, our strength is limited, but God's strength and power are unlimited.

**READ: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

Paul speaks clearly about this. His thorn in the flesh was a definite weakness. He struggled with whatever it was and even pleaded with the Lord to take it away. But look at what he says in verse 10 (NIV): "That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses" What? How in the world can you delight in weaknesses?

Let's break it down. The word used for *delight* in the original language is: *eudokeo*: to think well of, delight, embrace. Paul says that he embraces his weaknesses.

**What weakness do you need to embrace?**

Let's take an even closer look at this next verse:

...My **1. grace** is **2. sufficient** for you, for my **3. power** is made **4. perfect** in **5. weakness** (2 Cor. 12:9).

Original language words:

Grace-*Charis*: unmerited favor, divine influence upon a heart.

Sufficient-*Arkeo*: eliminating a barrier, sufficient, exactly enough.

Power-*Dunamis*: explosive, miraculous power.

Perfect-*Teleitai*: completely fulfilled.

Weakness-*Astheneia*: disease, infirmity, brokenness.

## WEEK 4 | DAY 3 - Strong in Christ cont.

God's divine influence is exactly enough to meet your every need, for his explosive, miraculous power is made completely perfect in *you* when you are broken before Him.

So many times we think we can live this life. We try our best to be good, to fit in, to keep up with all our activities, and we try so hard to overcome our sin. But God's power is unlimited. He is waiting for us to admit we are weak and in need of Him. Our pride keeps us from experiencing all that God has planned. Scripture says He "is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6).

Come to God today and humbly call out for help.

1. Have you ever felt (or do you now feel) that you had to be emotionally, spiritually, or socially strong? Explain. Why?

---

---

---

2. We learned God wants us to delight or embrace our weaknesses. How can you allow God to be your strength?

---

---

---

3. What does it mean to you to be humble/broken before God?

---

---

---



## WEEK 4 | DAY 4— Strong in Christ

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:18-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

**PREPARE:** Change your posture before the Lord to one that shows submission and surrender. If you are physically able, get on your knees or on your face in His presence. Remove all distractions. Spend some time talking to God. Acknowledge Who He is and what He is capable of. Ask Him to speak to you through His word.

**READ:** Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

I’ve been ministry since 2004. One of the things I’ve learned is that people ask tough questions. But God has used these challenging questions to grow in my love for His Word. When a student comes to me with a doozy of a question, I take a deep breath, pray for wisdom, and dig into Scripture. To be honest, I don’t always have an answer. I think God leaves us with many unanswered questions because He gives so many undeniable truths about Himself.

Scripture reminds us of the man who received the spit ball in the eyes from Jesus (John 9:1-34). After he was healed from blindness, he was taken before the Pharisees to be questioned. The Pharisees ask him whether or not Jesus is a sinner. Listen to his response.

“He then answered, ‘Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see’” (John 9:25).

There are so many things about Jesus that we do not know, but there are so many things based on Scripture and your personal experiences that are undeniable.

When my students come to me with a question I can’t answer, I point them to the answers I do know. This is just what the blind man did when standing before the Pharisees. While you may have some great personal experiences, the best source of knowledge about our God is His Word. We must dig into Scripture and write it upon our hearts.

“Paul says in Ephesians 4:13-14 that the only way ordinary people will cease to be children tossed to and fro by winds of false teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men as if they come to full manhood in *knowledge*—the knowledge of the Son of God. This is not the goal of an elite, educated few! It is the biblical mandate for every believer! You!” —John Piper

### The Value of Biblical Truth

Biblical truth frees from Satan (John 8:32; 2 Tim. 2:24-26).

Biblical truth mediates grace and peace (2 Pet. 1:2).

Biblical truth sanctifies (John 17:17; 2 Pet. 1:3, 5, 12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

Biblical truth serves love (Phil. 1:9).

Biblical truth protects from error (Eph. 4:11-15; 2 Pet. 3:17-18).

Biblical truth saves (1 Tim. 4:16; Acts 20:26-27; 2 Thess. 2:10).

Biblical truth is the ideal of heaven (1 Cor. 13:12).

Biblical truth is the duty of elders (Titus 1:9).

Biblical truth is approved by God (2 Tim. 2:15).

Biblical truth should continually increase (2 Pet. 3:18; Col. 1:10; Heb. 5:12).

## WEEK 4 | DAY 4– Strong in Christ cont.

1. Write out one question you've had about God.

---

---

---

2. How can experiencing God in your life point others to truth?

---

---

---

3. What is something that you have experienced or read that leaves no doubt about who God is?

---

---

---

4. What commitment should you make to know and study the Word of God? How can you make sure that this continues each day?

---

---

---

## WEEK 4 | DAY 5 - Make Disciples

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:18-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**PREPARE:** Change your posture before the Lord to one that shows submission and surrender. If you are physically able, get on your knees or on your face in His presence. Remove all distractions. Spend some time talking to God. Acknowledge Who He is and what He is capable of. Ask Him to speak to you through His word.

**READ: John 17:1-19**

Jesus called the first disciples as well as you and me with two words: "Follow Me." And with two more words, Jesus gives us another very clear command: "Make Disciples." You may be wondering why we're talking about making disciples. Haven't we been doing that? Yes, but in ways you may not expect.

When I was sixteen years old, I gave my life to Christ. I wanted to know and experience all that God had planned for me. Since I was not raised in church, I had never been exposed to Christian traditions or norms. All I knew was that God had spoken to my heart and revealed that I needed Him. Thank God, He did not leave me alone to figure it all out. He surrounded me with others who had also experienced His call.

My friends invited me to go with them and walk beside them as they followed Christ. They took me to public gatherings and challenged me to share my new faith and how God had spoken to me.

You see, once we experience God, we change. We can't help but share what He has done in our lives. My friends taught me how to study God's Word and to live by the truths found there. They took me to church, where I was continually poured into. Nothing was off-limits to questions and discussion. We were transparent and humble with each other. God used these young men to show me what it means to walk in faith and trust the Lord for strength.

They also taught me that disciple-making is about two things:

1. Sharing life together in Christ: They took me with them and challenged me not to be satisfied with a mere "Christian" label.
2. Multiplying the life of Christ: These young men had me follow them as they followed Christ. They multiplied themselves.

Just a year after coming to know Christ, I had to move away. But because of what my friends had taught me and how God had changed my life, I saw the move as an opportunity and a mission field.

Don't be tempted to compromise your mission. Satan is trying everything He can to get you to do everything except the one thing Jesus told us to do: *Go and Make Disciples*.

In the verses listed, Jesus speaks about His disciples quite a bit. He says in verse 4, "I have brought you glory on earth by *completing* the work you gave me to do." He goes on to tell about that work. I'm surprised He mentions nothing about feeding the 5,000, healing the sick, raising the dead, walking on water, the miraculous spit ball, or even calming the storms. What He begins to describe is how He prepared the men that God gave us to walk out their faith. He gave them an example.

Jesus spent more time with his disciples than with everybody else in the world put together, during His three and a half years of ministry. He devoted himself to a few men rather than the masses so that the masses might be saved. *You* are God's method for winning the world to Himself. There is no "PLAN B." This is it. We are the plan God has chosen to make His name great among the nations.

1. Whom has God used to challenge you in your walk with Christ?

---

2. List two or three things they have done that have helped you the most.

---

3. Pray and ask God to show you one or more persons in whom you can invest. Write their names here.

---



# WEEK 4 | DAY 6 – Make Disciples Who Make Disciples

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:18-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

**PREPARE:** Change your posture before the Lord to one that shows submission and surrender. If you are physically able, get on your knees or on your face in His presence. Remove all distractions. Spend some time talking to God. Acknowledge Who He is and what He is capable of. Ask Him to speak to you through His word.

**READ:** Acts 2:42-47

Christians all over the world are tempted to focus on things that they hope that God will bless instead of doing the things that He has already promised that He would bless. Let me explain. There are many things that we do as Christians that are good. Examples of this could include; high attendance Sundays, VBS, youth camps, programs, Bible studies, swim parties, and so on. These are very good things to do and are even very helpful and can enlarge the kingdom. Many lives have been changed by each of these. But are these the very best? Now I am not saying that we should stop any of the events or programs listed. Instead, I would have you and I ask God how we can best accomplish the mission that He has given us personally? As a church?

Let me lay out two scenarios for you:

What if your church was to lead 10 people to the Lord each week for 30 years? At the end of that time, 14,400 people would have given their lives to Christ. Now this is an exciting number and one that would be cheered and even praised by all. Books would be written on how you were able to reach that many and conferences would be organized to have your staff teach about this amazing strategy.

But let me lay out one more scenario with you.

Let's say you, just you, decided to disciple and invest in just ONE person for an entire year. You would be able to walk through life with them and model the life of a Christ follower. Then, after that year was over you challenged your new disciple to do the same while you were to take on one more as well. Let's say that you were to continue this process of each new disciple investing in one new person each year for 30 years. Did you know that the total lives that would be changed and disciplined would be over 1 billion people?

We are called to multiply ourselves by investing in people. Sometimes we get this confused with involvement. We are not called to go and get involved in church. No. We are called and set apart to go and make disciples. To do this requires time and can be very costly. It is intentional and inconvenient. To make a disciple is to walk along-side of and model what it means to follow Christ. It means that you point them to the truth as they are attacked by the enemy. It means that you hold them accountable and teach them to obey His teachings and to trust in His promises.

1. Have you ever had someone intentionally Disciple you? What keeps you from discipling someone? Is this a valid reason?

---

---

---

2. Why is it easy to focus on a different strategy other than the one God has plainly given us?

---

---

---

3. Would you like to begin this process of being and making disciples? If YES, will you let one of our staff know? Will you send an email to [cthompson@fbcskiatook.com](mailto:cthompson@fbcskiatook.com) or a text to 918-695-4944 stating that you would like to be obedient to make disciples?