

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

John 20:21 ESV



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Worship & Communion Service

Sunday, August 6, 2023

SERVICES & CONTACTS


Sunday Worship Services in-person & live stream - 10:40am & 6pm

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/bereanbarbados/live>

Join us for Sunday School in-person - 9:30am

There is a class for ALL ages

Midweek Service in-person & online (Wednesday)

 **ZOOM Noon** and repeated **7:30pm** | link provided

Youth Service in-person - 7pm (Friday)

 **WhatsApp**  **Signal**  **Telegram 845-5752** or **Tel: 426-4707**

email: info@bereanbarbados.org

www.bereanbarbados.org

Commissioned by Christ to Reach the World

by Mark Collins

Many passages in Scripture speak to the missionary task, but at the foundation we need to remember that we do missions because Jesus commissioned his people to carry the gospel to the ends of the earth. Two passages in Scripture make this point unmistakably: John 20:21 and Matthew 28:18-20.

“As the Father Has Sent Me, Even So I Am Sending You.” (John 20:21)

The disciples were surely in shock—the man they had seen crucified was standing alive before their eyes. John 20 tells us that while barricaded in a hidden room, wondering if a knock at the door might lead to their arrests and executions, Jesus appeared to the disciples showing them the wounds in his hands and his side (John 20:19-29).

Can you imagine how their thoughts would have been racing? What could it all mean? Surely nothing would ever be the same.

Consider what Jesus might have said to them in this moment. He could have declared his sovereign power over heaven and earth. He could have explained how the Old Testament had been fulfilled in him. He could have given them more instruction about the kingdom of God. Instead he chose to tell them two things: (1) “Peace be with you,” and (2) “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21).

Jesus pronounces peace on the apostles because through his death and resurrection, we have peace with God. Those who believe the gospel know the peace that passes all understanding—the peace of a reconciled relationship with God (Phil. 4:7). No better news exists for the apostles or for us.

But notice, Jesus doesn’t stop with this word of peace. Instead, the gospel of peace has immediate implications for the apostles: “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21). What you do comes from who you are. Jesus hits both identity and mission in one sentence. Those two things are one for a disciple of Jesus. As the Father sent Jesus on a ministry of mercy to the world, so Jesus sends his disciples as ministers of mercy.

If you call yourself a Christian, then this is part of your identity too. Disciples are like their masters. When we say that we are disciples of Jesus, we mean that we are his followers—those who recognize him as our teacher, our example, and our Lord. When he sends us on a mission that he first modeled for us, we need to accept that mission as our own. We need to make it our goal to know and pursue the mission for which he sends us. It is a worthy goal!

“Make Disciples of All Nations.” (Matt. 28:18-20)

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus always seems to give his disciples more than they bargain for.

In Matthew 28, Matthew records that the group, reeling in shock and awe over his resurrection, had an unsettled mix of emotions: “And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted” (Matt. 28:17). Perhaps Jesus will deal with the doubts before he proceeds to their mission? Nope, Jesus simply reminds them of his own sufficiency, glory, and authority. He draws their eyes to his ultimate regency over creation before commissioning them to take the gospel to all the nations:

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:18-20)

This passage is often called “the Great Commission.” Jesus’s commands are clear. He tells the disciples what to do, where to do it, and how to do it.

What to do. The disciples must go, make disciples, baptize, and teach. Grammatically, “make disciples” (v. 19) is the main verb. The other verbs—go, baptizing, and teaching—describe how the disciples are to accomplish that central task of disciple-making. They must go to share the good news of peace with God available by faith in Christ. As people repent of their sins and believe this good news, the disciples must baptize the new believers upon their profession of faith. Then the disciples need to teach these new disciples what Jesus first taught them.

Jesus pronounces peace on the apostles because through his death and resurrection, we have peace with God.

Where to do it. Jesus instructs his followers to make disciples of “all nations” (v. 19). In other words, the scope of the mission extends to every corner of the earth. The word for nations in Greek (the original language of the New Testament) is *ethne*. This word doesn’t refer to political nations like Turkey, China, or the United States, but smaller groups—the ethnicities of the world. This word also reveals God’s purposes in redemption: he’s drawing to himself worshipers among all the different people groups of the earth. In the Old Testament, God promised Abraham that all the families of the earth would be blessed through his seed (Gen. 12:1-3). He taught the nation of Israel to pray for the nations (Psalm 67). Now Jesus launches a global campaign to bring the kingdom of God to every people group, fulfilling the Abrahamic promise. At the end of history, we’ll witness Christ’s victorious enterprise as men and women from every tribe, tongue, and nation bow before the Messiah as worshipers of the one true God (Rev. 5:9).

How to do it. Notice Jesus brackets his command to the disciples with promises of his power and his presence. On the front end, Christ is the one with all authority in heaven and earth (Matt. 28:18). He has the authority as the divine Son of God to send us on heaven’s mission. He has the authority to demand the allegiance of the peoples. On the back end, Christ promises that he will not leave us to our own devices. He will be with us always, to the end of the age (v. 20). These promises should make all the difference for people like you and me who struggle to be faithful to this Great Commission. Though we may feel overwhelmed—lacking wisdom and lacking strength—we only need to lean on Jesus who is with us now and always.

Order of Service

WORSHIP & COMMUNION SUNDAY

August 6, 2023 at 10:40am

THEME: "He is Worthy"

1. Welcome - Pastor Paul Garnes
2. Announcements - Sis. Celeste Porte
3. Call to Worship, Meditation & Invocation
4. Hymn #13 Crown Him with Many Crowns (1,2&6)
5. Hymn #15 Angel Voices Ever Singing (1,3&4)
6. Reading Acts 16: 25-34
7. Hymn #530 A Shelter in the Time of Storm
8. Offertory Hymn #531 I know Whom I have Believed
9. The Choir
10. Hymn #814 Wonderful Grace of Jesus
11. Sermon - Bro. Dr. Carl Ward
12. Behold The Lamb
13. Distribution of Elements
14. Closing Hymn #621 Who Is on The Lord's Side (1&4)
15. Benediction

ITEMS FOR PRAYER



- Pray for our VBS (Vacation Bible School)
- Give God thanks His mercy and Grace for a new month.
- For those grieving.
- For guidance as we build God's Church.
- Pray for the ministry and wellbeing of our Pastor and family.
- For healing for our sick members.
- For grace for our shut-in members.
- For the Berean Church DR Congo.
- For the friends of Berean - The Gilmours, Haecks, Hulls, Moores, Montagues, Porchers, Rogers, Rudders and Taylors.
- For our unemployed members to find meaningful employment.
- For the peace of Jerusalem.

- REMINDEES:**
- **NEW "EPHESIANS" SERMON SERIES - Sundays 6:00pm**
 - **DOOR TO DOOR** Hothersal, Main Road **Aug 13, 4:30pm.**
 - **VBS (Vacation Bible School) runs from Aug 14-18.**

August Birthdays

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1st - Louise Moore | 14th - Steve Brewster | 24th - Monica Crawford |
| 3rd - Deirdre Boyce | - Esther Lord-Graham | - Orin Paul |
| - Audrey Lloyd | 18th - Jean Slocombe | 27th - Tyrone Lowe |
| 4th - Melissa Lucas | - Patricia Gaskin | 28th - Denis Maynard |
| 11th - Bernadette Holder | 21st - Celeste Porte | 30th - Cynthia Lindsay |
| 12th - Mitchell Sinckler | 23rd - Nicholas Williams | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
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| 2nd - Truneal & Mikhail Kwang | 26th - Jamar & Leneisha Watts |
| - Owen & Jenny Thompson | 27th - Richard & Brigitte James |
| - Lorna & George Ward | Pearlita & Dacre Franklin |
| 11th - Stephen & Betty Mendes | |