



RCC Phoenix – 4.19.20 – Becoming Disciples (Week 1)

Last week we celebrated Resurrection Sunday together. We recalled and remembered the importance of the Bible, the Cross & the Empty Tomb.

This week we want to talk about what happened next.

After Jesus _____, he began appearing to many people.

Jesus actually appeared to more than _____ people.

1 Corinthians 15:3-7 NLT

“I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles.”

Jesus appeared to many groups of people in many different _____ and at different _____.

This is important because if Jesus had only appeared to one group of people in one location it could easily be _____ as a single, false religious experience.

Jesus is seen by groups of different sizes. He is seen outdoors in broad daylight and inside closed buildings at evening time lit by candlelight. He is seen by a group as large as 500 and as small as 2. He ate fish with the disciples, walked and talked with 2 of his followers walking back to the city of Emmaus after the crucifixion. He allows some of them to touch the nail wounds in his hands and others to see the scars on His body.

This is further physical evidence of his resurrection.

So after the most important moment and event in human history occurs, Jesus shows himself to His disciples and speaks to them before He ascends into heaven.

What does Jesus say to them in this moment?

Matthew 28:16-20 NLT

“Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted! Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

The original word in the Bible for Disciple is Mathetes.

Definition:

Mathetes – A learner, _____, disciple.

1. Disciples of Christ Take Up Their _____

Matthew 16:24-25 NLT

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.”

Last week we discussed that when someone who was sentenced to death by crucifixion immediately lost their _____ as a citizen when they took up their cross.

Although this is not a common phrase for us today, the disciples knew exactly what Jesus meant.

Are we ready to give up our own way, give up our own desires, give up our right to live selfishly and follow what Jesus wants from us?

This is a requirement for disciples

“...If any of you wants to be my follower you _____...”

Our goal at RCC is to obey Jesus direction and make disciples.