

Jesus Prepares His Disciples for Success

1. Jesus' Acts 1:8 prophecy is fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost.
 - a. Acts 1:8 prophecy fulfilled on Day of Pentecost. When Jesus gave this prophesy, He did not tell the disciples to go anywhere but to Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. In Matthew 28:18,19 He tells them to go into all the world and preach the gospel. In Acts 2:5-12, He has the world come to them.
2. Jesus (a) equipped, (b) anointed, and (c) set the disciples up for success.
 - a. Mentoring and teaching them for 3.5 years (The Gospels);
 - b. Baptizing them in the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5);
 - c. Baptizing them in the Holy Spirit during a Jewish feast when people from around the world would be present to hear the gospel. (Acts 2:5-12))
3. Jesus prepares the way for the disciples to go into all the world.
 - a. John the Baptist preached repent for the kingdom of God is at hand preparing the way for Jesus. Jesus, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and who represents the Kingdom of God, comes to the Jordan River to be baptized in water by John. The Holy Spirit descends on Him in the form of a dove. His earthly ministry begins. (Matthew 3:16)
 - b. Jesus sends out 70 followers to cities that He planned to visit so they could prepare for His coming. Among other instructions, He told them to heal the sick there and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near you." (Luke 10:1,9)
 - c. On the day of Pentecost, people from all the known world were represented and heard the disciples speak the wonderful works of God in their own language. Whenever Jesus performed miracles, healed, visited a town, ate with sinners or visited them, people talked and told others. Many times, Jesus would tell them not to tell anyone, but they would "proclaim it freely and spread the matter." (Mark 1:45, 5:20, 7:36) After Jesus was falsely arrested, King Herod was "exceedingly glad" to meet Jesus because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. (Luke 23:8) When Jesus changes a life, it is hard for people to restrain themselves from sharing. (Word: Most of Jesus' ministry was done in homes and in the streets, not in the synagogue.)
4. Jesus leads by example.
 - a. When Jesus was on trial, the testimony against Him was, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place (Jerusalem)." (Luke 23:5) Jesus lived in Nazareth in Galilee.
 - b. In Acts 1:8, the prophecy is "you will be witnesses in Jerusalem, all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The disciples were in Jerusalem.
5. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)
 - a. He keeps His promises to you. You can trust His word.
 - b. He equips, anoints, and sets you up for success.
 - c. He prepares you to accomplish the assignments He gives you.
 - d. He leads you by His examples.

Abundant blessings,

Pastor Vanessa
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