# Welcome Baptized Disciples of Jesus – "GO" Training

Lesson 1

Few Find Heaven

wcn.bdoj@gmail.com

Objectives: Help disciples accomplish the tasks assigned by Jesus in a religiously confused and secular world

The "Great Commission" of Jesus is the task list for Baptized Disciples of Jesus to "Go" into the World.

Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore GO and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

## The "Great Commission" of Jesus is also the most direct proclation of the "Directions to Heaven" for all souls.

- 1. Make a decision and commitment to become a Baptized Disciple of Jesus (BDOJ) for the forgiveness of your sins so that your soul can be in the presence of Almighty God.
- 2. Faithfully try your best to obey everything Jesus commanded the Apostles because of the grace and mercy of Almighty God for obedient Jesus Disciples.

How can a soul determine everything Jesus commanded the Apostles?

Read and study the New Testament Bible

Suggest Luke, then Acts, then Matthew, then Romans

### Disciples Task Summary and Answer to Most Questions

- 1. GO make Disciples by immersing (baptizing) them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit **for the forgiveness of sins**
- 2. Teach Disciples to **do their best to** obey everything Jesus commanded the Apostles

These words of Jesus enable disciples to be supremely confident in answering basic spiritual questions

Supremely Confident = Spiritually Question proof

# "GO" training is organized to prepare BDOJs to be confident in any spiritual conversation or situation.

- How to represent ourselves outside the church building
- How to engage souls in reading the Bible with the directions to Heaven
- How to represent the church that belongs to Jesus outside the church building
- How to discuss spiritual issues that result in a question that Disciples want to answer
- How to answer questions that educate

Method: Asking religious related questions and being prepared (Trained) to answer any question about God's word, the church and Heaven at any time and in any circumstance.

The object of "GO" Training is to make BDOJs Spiritual Question bullet proof

Peter encourages disciples to be ready to and how to answer questions

1 Peter 3:15

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,"

In order to answer a question, disciples must first be asked a question and be confident in their answer.

### What is a Question?

- A request for information of interest to the questioner
- A training method to ascertain the knowledge of a student
- A method of leading to or calling for a conclusion
- An invitation to ask a question in response

### What is an Answer?

- A information transfer in response to a request
- An opportunity to educate the questioner
- An opportunity to ask a question

In answering a question, you know the questioner is interested in your answer.

What factors make disciples hesitant to engage in spiritual discussions with those outside the church building?

- We are uncertain as how to proceed
- We do not have close personal relations with those outside the church building
- We do not want to argue with the views of others
- We think most others are satisfied with their own religion
- Society tells disciples to keep our religion to ourselves / in the home

## First Century Social and Government Environment

- The Roman government was overbearing, religious organizations were many, and slavery was common
- The God of Israel, Jewish Synagogues and Greek, Roman, and consumerism Gods were prevalent -- Immorality was common and accepted by many
- Disciples of Jesus were scorned by the Religious and Roman authorities, feared for their safety, but found favor among their neighbors
- Even in these dire circumstances, disciples made more disciples and the number of souls that worshipped with the church that belongs to Jesus greatly increased.

# First century versus contemporary personal relationships

- Travel distance was limited ~ walking distance work was nearby
- Work was local human activated versus machines
- Leisure activities were limited no TV internet video games
   front porch culture
- Bottom line people knew and depended upon their neighbors every day

## First century versus contemporary Religious Environment

- The church that belongs to Jesus also interacted with society in a different manner
- The threat of crucifixion or becoming a torch for Disciples was finite
- The main activity of the church was remembering the body and blood of Jesus – because hope for eternal life was demonstrated.
- Disciples depended upon each other for encouragement, safety and confidence
- Despite these hardships, the number of BDOJs and the church that belongs to Jesus grew and flourished.

Every BDOJ can help make disciples of Jesus if we can confidently give an answer to any spiritual question.

- Our society today is different due to our mobility and the availability of activities that separate us from our neighbors which limits our close association and interaction with those outside the church building.
- This situation requires that BDOJs obey as those in the first century, that followed Jesus command to "Go and Make Disciples".

 GO Training prepares BDOJs to enter the battle for the souls of the lost.

BDOJs must be supremely confident to go into the world where disciples of Jesus are not welcome.

John 15:18-19

<sup>18</sup> "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. <sup>19</sup> If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

But Disciples must go into the world because the majority of souls are on their way to eternal separation from God or Hell.

# BDOJs must be supremely confident to go into the world where disciples of Jesus are not welcome.

John 17:15-17

<sup>15</sup> My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Disciples of Jesus can GO into the world if we are spiritually Question proof with confidence in the Words of Jesus and the grace and mercy and assistance of the Holy Spirit.

The spiritual environment in America is a mixture of multi-religion and anti-religion forces with flawed knowledge that is assumed correct, fervently professed, and minimally practiced.

- Any church is just another denomination with another set of beliefs that leads to the conclusion that any church is OK with Jesus.
- In the past, those entering the church building had an opportunity to hear to Word and obey to become a BDOJ. – However, in today's world, very few of the lost will ever enter a church building

## The large number of Christian denominations has distorted the meaning of the word "Christian".

- The word "Christian" was coined in Antioch in now Syria to refer to Baptized Disciples of Jesus – Acts 11:26
- Today, a person that identifies as a Christian can believe anything or nothing to the extent that everyone assumes heaven is the default destination of every soul
- Therefore, we must identify ourselves as Baptized Disciples of Jesus or BDOJs which eliminates denomination biases and educates hearers to the directions to Heaven.

The many groups / denominations that claim to have a connection to Jesus and all mighty God in Heaven contribute to the confusion in spiritual landscape of America.

- The many different brands of Christianity in the world leads to the assumption that anything and everything is OK with almighty God.
- The assumption that your beliefs are OK and mine are OK leads to claiming the rules of men are from almighty God.
- The only way to avoid the confusion of denominations is to avoid being just another denomination in word and deed.
- Denomination labels and associations only result in divisions and mean nothing in Heaven.

The first step on the way to being spiritually Question-proof is to be supremely confident in how we represent ourselves to those outside the church building.

- When offered the opportunity to define your religion, how do you respond?
- "I am a Baptized Disciple of Jesus"
- Rather than "I am a Christian" or "I am a Christian only"
- This answer is based on the great commission of Jesus – Matthew 28:18-20

The best way to start any spiritual conversation is to present the Directions to Heaven, where everyone wants to go, but most souls do not know the way.

Matthew 7:13-14 – Jesus words

<sup>13</sup> "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

The "GO" approach is to present the "Directions to Heaven" in ways that excludes denominational biases, avoids condemnation of the hearer and presents opportunity to answer questions.

- Presentation of the Directions to Heaven educates the hearer and places the responsibility on the hearer.
- The Best way to present Directions to Heaven is a printed message – sign or card
- BDOJs should be ready to answer questions

## Lesson 1 Summary

Jesus Commission to the Apostles (Matthew 28:18-20) is the command and the answer for making more disciples

Disciples can be trained to be spiritually Question-proof to assist in making more disciples

The way BDOJs represent themselves and the church that belongs to Christ is critical in reaching those outside the church building

The only way to Heaven is faithfully trying to obey everything Jesus commanded the apostles.