

“Do not let your hearts be troubled...Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”
John 14:1, 12

Jesus Comforts Us by Focusing Us in the Right Direction - On him!

“On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.” John 11:17

Jesus arrived at Lazarus' house “late”...he was not, “late”, he is always right on time. From his friend's perspective though, Jesus was four days late, the people were not happy, and the body “stank” (that is the word used here). Everything came out just fine in the end. Always try to view reality from God's perspective and you will understand what God is doing. Look at the situation you are in from God's perspective and “Let not your hearts be troubled”.

Belief is the Key...Belief leads to Faith and Faith leads to Trust...and Trust Makes Disciples

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Belief → **Faith** → **Trust** → **Disciples** is a building block system. **Belief** starts your relationship with Christ. Christ builds on this belief he has given you and strengthens it into **Faith**. When faith is starting to mature and become usable by God in your life and the lives of others, God widens it into **Trust**. This is a building-block-understanding of how God makes **Disciples**. “Disciples are made, not born”. A life of Discipleship, is every day, being built-on and strengthened.

Trust Prepares a Disciple for Discipleship

“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

There is “only one verb” in the above quote from Jesus – **GO**. The other 4 action words that seem to be verbs are actually just participles defining how the action of GO is being done.

God ≈ the verb

How God tells us to GO ≈ making disciples, baptizing, teaching and obeying

Discipleship Prepares Us for Service and to GO

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.” Romans 12:1

Everything we do is an act of worship – but, it is not always God we are worshipping...sometimes it is our own desires.

Greater Works / Greater Things

Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” John 1:50

The “greater” above is not that we do better and more intense things than Jesus did. It is the sheer magnitude of the actions Jesus' church does. We are all, every day, doing the works of Jesus. Where he was “only one man”, we are many, a whole church, the body of Christ, following his lead world-wide, every day.

Your personal role as a disciple is very, very important.

Jesus, himself, is working through you and all of us, all the time, through the power of the Holy Spirit.