

<p>growing as maturing multiplying <b>disciples</b></p>		<p>8 January 2023</p>	<p>Matthew 28:16-20 Ephesians 4:11-16 Colossians 1:28-29</p>
<p>Learning to Function in the “Real World”</p>			
<p><a href="http://occweb.org/sermons/">occweb.org/sermons/</a></p>			

**Summary:** In this introductory session to our series on discipleship, pastor Mike asks, “*how a follower of Jesus Christ is meant to function in the real world.*” At the heart of this ‘real world’ is the audacious truth that “*all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to [Jesus].*” To truly live in this Real World as his disciple is an ongoing, intentional formation process by which we learn to know as Jesus knows, believe as Jesus believes, and trust as Jesus trusts. As we stay connected to Jesus through His Word, through prayer, community, service, and other practices that help us grow, we mature as his disciples and become more and more like the One we follow.

Read: **Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 4:11-16; Colossians 1:28-29**

**Big Question:**

- What does a disciple of Jesus Christ actually look like in the real world?
- How does one actually function as a disciple of Jesus Christ, 24/7 in the real world?
  - How do you respond to those questions?

**Definition** of discipleship:

- When you think of words like “follower”, “student”, “pupil”, “learner”, “apprentice”, how do they add to your understanding of being a disciple?
- How do you understand these aspects in light of the above scriptures?
- Why are each of these elements important?
- What is the importance of Dale Bruner’s statement: “There are no graduates from the Jesus School; we are all always undergraduates.”

Growing	
Maturing	
Multiplying	

**6 essential actions** that help us actually function in the real world.

- Why are each of these important?
- Which one(s) do you struggle with the most? Why?

Bible	
Prayer	
Community	
Supper	
Ministry	
Sabbath	

## **Theological Declaration of Barmen**

As Jesus Christ is the assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so, in the same way and with the same seriousness, he is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life....

We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords.

- Context: written during the rise of Nazism
- Why is this an important statement for our day?