

Life Group Notes 6/29/2025

Charlie Temple—Discipleship

Week 2

No doctrine is a given unless it has been found in the Word given by the Holy Spirit and received by you. If you have observations or questions, feel free to send me an email with your comment or observations at tbeachhead@comcast.net. Thank you for taking the time.

– *Pete Mehegan, the Scribe.*

Remember: Be good to one another. Be sensitive and kind. Let God heal our heart and guide our discussions.

Please pre-read these notes and choose the direction that is appropriate for your group.

Be cognizant of your group's time and be sensitive. *Some groups would like to dwell on a single idea. Let the Spirit be your guide. Never feel obligated to complete this study.*

Note: I have highlighted suggested discussion questions that Charlie Temple has raised this week, 6/29. Let's allow the Holy Spirit to guide all our discussions, using the highlights as trail blazes. ***The purpose is to minister to one another.*** I include each of the passages mentioned in full, to facilitate the enjoyment of these notes. Footnotes are not meant to distract. This week's footnote speaks:

1. [On the imperatives of Matthew 28.](#)
2. [On God making His home with us.](#)

Important: At [the very end of these notes](#), I've included passages that were mentioned in this week's message for deeper study using SOAP journaling to help further your study during the week.

Charlie Temple began by saying, "I want to introduce you all to Jesus."

1. How is that done?
2. If you were asked to introduce someone else to Jesus, what would you say?
3. Would it be impromptu, natural? Or do you have a script?
4. Don't peak: Do you remember what Charlie said were the last words spoken to him as he left the judicial building to begin his retirement? (A security guard pointed at him and said..."You continue to be the man of God that you are.") What does this imply?
5. What is your testimony at your workplace? Do you know?

Charlie says, "You can take this message and summarize it in one word: "Go. And after you have gone, go again. And after you've gone again, just...go more." He summarized Bill Pelletier's message from last week. "Last week, we heard about being in a relationship with Jesus, by being in proximity with Him, being close and walking with

him, and being transformed by Him. So today we're going to examine that question about transformation."

1. What do you remember?
2. How was your week?
3. What did you see this week?

Look up Matthew 28: 1After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2Suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, rolled away the stone, and sat on it. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4The guards trembled in fear of him and became like dead men. 5But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6He is not here; He has risen, just as He said! Come, see the place where He lay. 7Then go quickly and tell His disciples, 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.' See, I have told you." 8So they hurried away from the tomb in fear and great joy, and ran to tell His disciples. 9Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" They came to Him, grasped His feet, and worshiped Him. 10"Do not be afraid," said Jesus. "Go and tell My brothers to go to Galilee. There they will see Me."

1. What do you see?
2. Describe the women's emotions.
3. Describe the emotions of the soldiers.

Now read Mt 28: 16Meanwhile, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain Jesus had designated. 17When they saw Him, they worshiped Him, but some doubted. 18Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

1. What do you see?
2. Describe the emotions of the eleven?
3. Why would anyone doubt?
4. How many people have you ever seen who have risen from the dead?
5. How many of these were brutally crucified and run through with a spear and buried before rising from the dead?
6. How many had the twelve seen rise from the dead, prior to seeing Jesus? What is unique to the events Matthew describes?
7. Why should they have had *no* doubt? Who had already predicted these circumstances? Did they forget?
8. In verse 19, as Jesus commanding the disciples to go anywhere? (See [footnote 1 below](#).)
9. What did He command them to do wherever they go?

Charlie asked, "Where are you going, Church?"

1. Answer him. Where have you "gone?"
2. Where do you go each day?
3. Does Jesus go with you?
4. How do you know He is with you? Does anyone else know?

5. List the places you know of where Grace Capital goes as a body.

Charlie made an example of Emma Bradley, who has gone...to many places and beyond. Charlie said, "She's less than half my age, and she is teaching me."

1. Explain.
2. How does one young person's example teach an old retired judge?
3. How do you stay open to being taught by those younger than you?
4. According to Jesus, how important is the faith of a little child? Explain.

Looking at verse 20, Charlie says the promise is this: "If you are obedient to this call. If you are transformed in the Spirit, He's going to be with you. Not just some of the time, He's going to be with you always. To the very end of the earth."

1. What does that bring to your mind?
2. What does His presence bring with it?
3. Compare the obedience Charlie speaks of to this promise from Isaiah 1: 19*If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the fat of the land.* What do you see?
4. What is your response to the idea of willingness?
5. What is your response to the idea of obedience?
6. Review again Philippians 2: 12*Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now even more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling. 13*For it is God who works in you to will and to act on behalf of His good purpose. 14*Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15*so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine as lights in the world. What is the fruit of obedience, according to Paul?
7. What does His presence bring with Him?
8. What did Jesus command His disciples to do? Look at Matthew 22: 36*"Teacher, which commandment is the greatest in the Law?" 37*Jesus declared, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38*This is the first and greatest commandment. 39*And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40*All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.*" Which of the two commandments is hardest to obey?
9. Review the ten commandments: How does each commandment hang on these two?
10. According to these verses, do you have to love your enemies?
11. When is your enemy also your neighbor?

Charlie listed points to remember:

- ✠ Share your story. Tell your story—
 - What does that do?
 - Look at Revelation 12: 10*And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ. For the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down—he who accuses them day and night before our God. 11*They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. And they did not love their lives so as to shy away from death. What do you see?
 - How was the enemy overcome? List the weapons of our warfare?

- Which weapons are under our control? Which exist already without our help, and by which we are saved?
- Have you ever seen your own testimony change circumstances? Explain.
- Have you ever heard a testimony that changed the way you think?
- ✠ Model Jesus with acts of love.
 - How does setting an example in Christ's image help?
 - Charlie spoke of Pastor Richie's example. Do you have a story to share?
 - Whom do you know who models Jesus well?
 - Charlie prophesied, "If you really want to be a disciple, Jesus is telling you, 'Don't be afraid to love. Even the people you don't want to love, love them.'" Do you have a testimony, where love expressed changed the atmosphere?
 - He continued, "You are being transformed into the image of Christ." What does that image look like, in practical terms?
- ✠ Practice this in real life. Be willing to teach, preach, pray, listen. Do not say, "I am not Pastor Richie. I'm not Pastor Bill. I'm not Pastor Mark." Explain.
 - Have any of them been sent to where you've been sent?
 - Do you **know** that you've been sent? Explain.
 - How many where you work are modeling Jesus?
 - What will it look like when all of your colleagues are modeling Jesus together?
 - He says, "We live life to the fullest, not because we are dying, but because we are truly living in Jesus." What does His presence bring daily?
 - Look at 1 Thessalonians 5: [23](#) *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your entire spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. [24](#) The One who calls you is faithful, and He will do it.* Describe what an answer to this prayer looks like in terms of your own life today?
 - How do you know this prayer will be answered in your life?
 - What changes in your surroundings as this prayer gets answered?
 - Charlie says the world will get you busy dying, but Jesus says, "I'm going to get you busy living. I'm going to get you busy loving. I'm going to get you born again." What changes?
 - James 2 says, "[26](#) As the body without the spirit (breath) is dead, so faith without works is dead." How do our works give life and bear witness to our faith?
 - What do those works look like?
 - Look up John 14: [14](#) *If you ask Me for anything in My name, I will do it. [15](#) If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. [16](#) And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever—*How important is this obedience?
 - What is the promised fruit, as described here? Are there any limits?
 - Now review John 14: [23](#) *Jesus replied, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. [24](#) Whoever does not love Me does not keep My words. The word that you hear is not My own, but it is from the Father who sent Me.* Charlie

asks, “Do you want a home with Jesus and the Father living in it with you?” Answer him. Now take a moment to pray together.

- Look at what Jesus offered the Laodicean church in Revelation 3:20 *Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and dine with him, and he with Me.* Is that any different from what He is offering us?
- Do you open that door? What is on your table for dinner?
- What emotions do you feel when you hear Him knocking?
- ✦ Note each manifestation of the fruit of the Spirit as you transform.
 - Do not underestimate the promised transformation.
 - Don’t overlook the manifestations of the Holy Spirit’s fruit.
 - Know the Spirit’s gifts as they are manifested. (1 Corinthians 14)

Charlie concludes by saying, “Go! Go! Go!” What changes when you go with the Father, and the Son and the Spirit?

Follow up application:

1. Use the [Soap study below](#) to pursue your own understanding.
2. Pick a step Charlie enumerated. Do it this week, and note what changes.

Take the time to pray.

Scribe’s Footnotes:

1. **On the imperatives of Matthew 28**—Verses 19 and 20, 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 all that I have commanded you* in almost every translation in English (as well as in French and Swedish), depict Jesus **commanding** his disciples to go into all the world. When you examine the translations in a parallel Bible that compares multiple translations on a page, such as you see at <https://biblehub.com/matthew/28-19.htm>, you will notice certain “literal” translations, like the Berean literal, that translate verse 19 like this: “Therefore **having gone**, disciple all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” (Emphasis added.) Notice that the Greek verb form is *not* the imperative/command form, but indeed the verb is a present participle. It’s important to understand what Jesus is saying here. “Go” doesn’t mean, necessarily, that you are commanded to pack up your bags and move to other lands, as so many fear. You might indeed go there eventually, but the verb in this form acknowledges that you are on your way somewhere every day. Your day doesn’t necessarily change, but your purpose does. Wherever you are going, you are to make disciples, as Charlie explained. Your example, your testimony will change the lives of those you meet as you go. You are alive. You are breathing. You are going...because only the dead go nowhere. We are being disciplined to set an example...to do what Jesus did, what He is commanding us to do.
2. **On God making His home with us**—The verse we looked at, John 14:23 “Jesus replied, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with.”” is pregnant with promise. I want to look at the four verbs in this verse. The verb “love” is *agapao*, the verb to love that Paul defines in 1 Corinthians 13. It is that love that lays down its soul for a friend according to Jesus. This is extremist love, and if living, it is increasing daily. The verb to keep, τηρέω (*tereo*), means more than just “obey,” although you will see that that is implied.

This word means: 1. *to guard (from loss or injury)* 2. *(properly) by keeping the eye upon, i.e. to note (a prophecy)* 3. *(... figuratively) to fulfil a command* 4. *(by implication) to detain in custody.* 5. *(... figuratively) to maintain* 6. *(by extension) to withhold for personal ends.* Thus, the Word is not something that you forget, lay aside or ignore. You make this word the foundation for your house, as Jesus said in Matthew 7, at the end of his Sermon on the Mount. You are not to be as the one James describes, who looks at himself in the mirror, and, when he walks away, forgets what he saw. This “keeping” is actually synonymous to that dwelling Jesus spoke of in the next chapter, when He invited us to “abide” in His word. Holding on to His Word in this way confirms our love, AND it confirms His love and the Father’s love for us. THEY, then, come and make their abode/dwelling/home in us. The Old Testament concept is that of a tabernacle. When the Israelites dwelt in tents, God likewise dwelt in a tent, the tabernacle, with them. They went everywhere, camping together. If we dwell in His Word, and His Word dwells in us...we can ask for more, and that theme is the central key to the efficacy of our outreach: Christ in us, the hope of glory. Our bodies become the tabernacle/tent of the Holy Spirit. He camps with us, as long as we dwell in these “tents.” And here’s the most poignant point: Where Jesus is going “to prepare a dwelling for us,” that word, “dwelling,” is the same word as the dwelling we prepare for the Father and for Him on this earth in our hearts. He camps with us here, and then we will go camping with Him for the rest of our days in new, newly redeemed tents.

For further study:

Take a moment each day this week to apply the **SOAP method** (**S**cripture—Copy the scripture. / **O**bservation—Write what you see. / **A**pplication—Write what God is saying. / **P**ray—Write what your response is.) to some of the scripture we looked at this week:

Monday: Isaiah 1:18-20
Tuesday: Matthew 28:17-20
Wednesday: John 14:23-24
Thursday: John 14:13-16
Friday: Revelation 12:10-11
Saturday: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
Sunday: James 2:26

Once again, some passages suggested here have more than the usual number of verses. This is not to increase the burden but to provide clarity of context. Pick the verses that speak to you most clearly, and run these through the SOAP steps.