

MESSAGE NOTES | FEBRUARY 13



Lessons Learned from Our People

(About the Bereans, about Christianity, and about Church)

[Mark 1:1](#) and [Acts 17:11](#)

Don Gillaspie
Oakwood Mission Partner

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Acts 17:11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and **examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.**

Be like Christ – rather than a Christian

Brennan Manning: *"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is "Christians": who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, walk out the door, and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable."*

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...** Matt 28: 19, 20

Be a Community – rather than a Church

Richard Twiss (Oglala Lakota Sioux): I'm glad I didn't find faith in Jesus in a church building. It spared me from having to become a Baptist, Presbyterian, Anglican, Pentecostal, or Wesleyan. I just became a follower of Jesus.

...that they may become completely one, **so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them** even as you have loved me." John 17:23

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY OR GROUP DISCUSSION

Check-In: Since we last met, how did your "I will..." and sharing go?

1. What are you thankful for? What challenge or stress are you facing? Do you know anyone who needs help at this time? As a group, how can we help?
2. Read [Mark 16:1-13](#), together (at least twice), and take turns retelling it in your own words as if sharing with a friend who isn't here.
3. What stands out to you and why? What do these verses tell us about God? What do these verses tell us about humanity/about us?
4. If this is God speaking, how will you apply it to your life?
(Share a specific: "I will...")
5. Who will you share with before we meet again?
*(Name a specific person you plan to **share with.**)*

If you'd like to learn more about the discovery group process, connect with marcus@oakwoodnow.org