



Faith, Culver



First, Meadowlands



St. John's, Saginaw



St. Peter's, Canyon



MINISTER’S MESSAGE FROM DAVE’S DESK

When was the last time we gave thought, effort or action into our commission that God has given us as his disciples? In Matthew 28:18-20 Jesus says: “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.”

This is the charge that Jesus gives to his disciples as they move forward after his death and resurrection. We too being disciples of Christ are committed to sharing this message and bringing many more disciples to a faith in the Gospel. Jesus invested a lot of time in his 12 disciples. He invested even more in the four key disciples: Peter, Andrew, James and John. So, we may be thinking that the 12 disciples walked with Jesus during his three years of ministry. How can we possibly share our message without the benefit of his face-to-face teaching?

But when we read the Easter story, it wasn't even any of the 12 who first heard the news of the resurrection. It was the women who were going to the tomb to prepare the body and found the tomb empty. It was Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and several others that Jesus shared the resurrection news with first. These were ordinary women who spent most of their time taking care of the disciples. Not the highly theologically trained 12. No, it was a bunch of very ordinary women who first told the Easter message. It's the same today. Ordinary people talking to their friends is far more effective than a bunch of clergy.

Now we may say that we don't have enough knowledge of the bible to be able to share the good news of the Gospel to make disciples. Jesus promises us that the Holy Spirit walks with us and will

give us the words needed.

Most of you reading this have heard of the evangelist Billy Graham. Truth be told, Billy Graham admits that he often got cold and clammy hands and knees that shook before he preached. This is not a confession one would expect from the man who has preached the Gospel to more people than probably anyone else in history. He said, “Every time I stand before a crowd, I feel unworthy to preach the Gospel,” Graham admits “I feel fearful that I may say something or do something that may mislead someone, because I'm talking to eternal souls who have the possibility of living in heaven forever.”

Even though Billy Graham gets nervous at times, he still went on preaching the Gospel and making disciples. We too must take that leap of faith that the Holy Spirit will walk with us as we make disciples of all nations.

In God’s peace, Invite a friend – Minister Dave

<p>~CLERGY SCHEDULE & CONTACT INFO~ Dave Erdmann, SAM (Synodically Authorized Minister), is our worship & faith life leader. Days off: Mon & Sat. He is <u>always</u> available for emergencies. First contact: 218-391-7951 (cell) Secondary number: 218-348-9720 Email: dwerdmann@gmail.com</p>
--