

# Am I called to be a Disciple?

Yes! The Great Commission in the Gospel of Matthew extends to all the baptized! “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations....teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20). A disciple is someone who **learns** from Jesus (his teachings can be found in the Gospels) and strives to **live** like Jesus. Jesus spent a lot of his time teaching others about the Kingdom of God. If we want to live by his example, then we should spend time talking to others about God too. This doesn't mean that God has to come up in every single conversation or that we need to preach from the street corners. We can teach others about God by our example and by our witness. “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses” (Evangelii Nuntiandi).

The church exists to evangelize. If the Apostles didn't share their faith (aka evangelize) and pass on the stories that Jesus told them, there's a really good chance the church would have ended with their death. The church exists over 2,000 years after Jesus walked the earth because throughout history Christians have shared the faith. How cool is it that we get to participate in passing down 2,000 years of tradition when we share the faith with others?!

St. Mary Parish encourages you to take some time this year to grow in discipleship and share with others how God has worked in your life. Your witness could be the thing that brings someone (back) to Christ!

