

Theme: Christians are rooted in God's grace and flourish as they are engaged in reaching the world, both locally and internationally, with the Gospel so that others may hear and respond to the Gospel.

I. Intro - Review

A. Our series - Rooted: A flourishing Christian life.

B. Building off of Colossians 2:6-7

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7

1. Paul actually mixes three metaphors: walk, rooted, and built on how we grow in our lives in Christ.
2. We have focused on the metaphor of being "rooted" in Christ so that we flourish.

C. This is the fifth and final teaching in the series:

1. The Gospel of God's Grace - the soil
2. Love our God, Connect with Others
3. Serve His Church, Reach the World
4. A healthy tree stretches out, bears fruit

II. Rooted To Reach the World

A. Go - don't sit and wait for them to come

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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

1. Jesus does not envision us sitting and hoping they will come
2. Flourishing believers are proactive and intentional about reaching the lost world with the Gospel of God's grace.

B. All nations - from my family to the farthest people

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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

1. This is about more than foreign missions; it is a call to every follower of Christ to actively seek to spread the Good News.
2. This begins at home and spreads out everywhere
But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8
 - a. We begin locally and spread out around the world
 - b. We begin reaching out at home, to spouses and children who are not yet believers.
 - c. We then reach out to extended family, neighbors, coworkers, and people in our relational spheres.
 - d. We then join others to move out until we are reaching out to the ends of the earth.
 - e. This is why BRCC is on mission here in Annapolis and around the globe.

C. We begin by evangelizing those who do not believe

1. The process begins with outreach to the lost, since one can not be rooted until they first become a Christian!
2. This includes both mercy ministry and evangelism
The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Luke 4:18-19
 - a. Jesus came to preach and do mercy ministry
 - b. Disciples follow in His footsteps and do both - caring for practical needs AND preaching the Gospel
 - c. It is not either-or but both-and!
3. Healthy disciples and churches are proactive in ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of this lost, broken, and suffering world.

D. Make disciples - not just converts

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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28:19–20

1. The verb is not 'go' but 'make disciples'
2. The process of discipleship includes **baptism** and **teaching**
 - a. Baptism is the first step of obedient faith. If you have not been baptized, do not delay!

- b. We teach all God has commanded in His Word so that converts become disciples - followers of Jesus who are deeply rooted in Him and growing by being actively engaged in His mission.
- c. This is why we stress the clear, consistent, detailed teaching of God's Word at BRCC - there is no other way to make disciples!
3. The goal in reaching the world is not just to get converts but more full-fledged, obedient disciples who are rooted in Christ and flourishing as they love, connect, serve, and reach.
4. We are called to become disciples who can reach out to others to share the faith and then to help each other grow as disciples of Christ!

III. How We Reach the World

A. We reach the world together

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. And surely I am with **you** always, to the very end of the age."
Matthew 28:19–20

1. All of the verbs are plural - this is a corporate commission
2. The promise of Jesus' Presence is to us as a group
3. This also follows the example of Jesus in sending out disciples 2 by 2 to evangelize
4. Our congregation has many ways you can be part of reaching out:
 - a. Serving as a Sunday greeter or on the coffee ministry to welcome those who come to us

- b. County Fair Booth, Lighthouse Shelter, jail ministry, Winter Relief, and our annual family outreach event in the spring.
- c. Short term missions trips
- d. Praying together for our missionaries around the world and for our church to effectively reach the lost here in our area. (After Hours - missions at BRCC)
- e. What other doors will God open for us?

B. We reach out to the world individually

1. Each of us must also reach out to those around us
2. God has you on mission right where you are:
 - a. Family
 - b. Work
 - c. Neighbors
 - d. Divine appointments

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; **make the most of every opportunity.** ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:5–6

 1. Make the most of opportunities - kairos moments
 2. Pray for God to open doors, and look!
 3. You have Good News - our sins can be forgiven, our broken lives and world healed!
 4. You have Good News - lonely people are invited to know their Father and to be part of a family!

3. To be rooted in Christ and flourishing includes actively looking for opportunities to share the Good News of what Christ has done!

4. This includes everything from a simple invitation to come to church with you, to offering to pray, to sharing the Gospel of Who Christ is and what He has done.

IV. Applying the Word

A. Am I rooted in Christ and flourishing?

1. Am I deeply rooted in the Gospel of grace?
2. Am I growing strong in God's grace personally?
3. Am I loving our God by regularly participating in corporate worship?
4. Am I connecting with others at BRCC?
5. Am I actively using my gifts to serve His church here at BRCC?
6. Am I on mission to reach the lost?
7. This is what it means to be firmly rooted in Christ!
8. This is what it means to be flourishing in my Christian life!
9. This is a never-ending cycle of growth and fruitfulness powered by grace!

B. The Table of Grace

1. The Lord's Table is a primary means of grace
2. Here we confess the Gospel together
3. Here, the Spirit works to root us deeply in Christ
4. Here the Spirit works to let us feast upon the grace of God together

Rooted - Reach the World

Colossians 2:6-7; Matthew 28:19-20

June 29, 2025

Communion

Psalm 67:1-2

Teaching keywords: Discipleship; evangelism and missions; mercy and mercy ministry

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, ² that his ways may be known on earth, his salvation among all nations. Psalm 67:1–2

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7

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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
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