

Title: **The Great Commission, the Great Commandment, and the Great Compulsion**

Text: **Matt. 22:37-38; etc.**

Find the sermon manuscript to follow along with online at mercyhillchurch.org.



Big Idea

The Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) is driven by the Great Commandment (Matt. 22:37-38) is driven by the Great Compulsion (2 Cor. 5:14-15). We love them because we love him because he loves us!

(1) The Great Commission

What is the Great Commission? It is the mandate that the church has received from Jesus that we not merely sit on our salvation but go with it to the nations. We bring the good news of the gospel to everyone everywhere—to people near and far, to people who have not yet believed and to people who may not yet have even heard. We bring Jesus to them and them to Jesus.

What is the underlying motivation?

- Motivation #1: Guilt
- Motivation #2: Pride
- Motivation #3: Greed
- Motivation #4: Adventure
- Motivation #5: Love for People

What is at the bottom? What is the deepest “why” we can have for missions? What is the fundamental fuel and driving force? It is not love for people. It is love for God! A concern for God and his glory, an all-consuming love for God—with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength—that is the only motivation that can both set you out on this mission and sustain you, keep you faithful, through the inevitable ups-and-downs of it.

(2) The Great Commandment

All four dimensions mentioned in the Great Commandment (heart, soul, mind, strength) are really just different ways of getting at the same basic point. You must love the Lord your God with everything

you have. Your whole being, as it were, is to be consumed with passion for him. That’s the first and greatest commandment. And it’s the first and greatest, because, if you get this right, everything else in the Christian life follows out from it . . . including the Great Commission!

Reduction #1: The Great Commission without the Great Commandment

If you don’t love the Lord your God with *all* your heart and *all* your soul and *all* your mind and *all* your strength, you will not go make disciples of *all* the nations and teach them to observe *all* of Jesus’ commands. You’ll teach the things that are more palatable to them and avoid the things that don’t.

Reduction #2: The Great Commandment without the Great Commission

God’s not looking at your raised hands or warm-fuzzies to determine whether you love him. He’s looking at your life (cf. John 14:15). And if you’re not going where he’s going, if you’re not loving what he loves—you don’t truly love him as you should. If he blesses us, it’s to be a blessing to others. If he saves us it’s to be a herald of that salvation to others. If he washes us in the rivers of his mercy, he will soon catch us up in the current of its flow and carry us with it on out to the nations.

(3) The Great Compulsion

“[T]he love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised” (2 Cor. 5:14-15).

“We will never understand how to abandon ourselves to God until we understand how God abandoned himself to us. When God gave his Son in love to the world, he didn’t give just a part of himself. He gave all of himself, absolutely and entirely. He gave with total abandon, holding nothing back.” - Oswald Chambers



Reflection Questions

- Which of the two “reductions” listed above would you say you are most prone to and why?
- Read 2 Cor. 5:14-15. What stands out to you? How does the love of Christ for you motivate you personally to go out and love others?
- How can you live on mission for Jesus this week?

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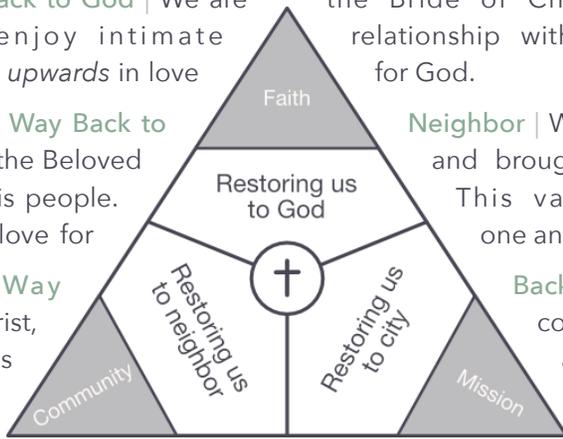
Our Mission & Values

Mercy Hill Church exists to help restore us to God, neighbor, and city through the good news of Jesus Christ.

FAITH: The Way Back to God | We are the Bride of Christ, created and redeemed to enjoy intimate relationship with him. This value presses our church *upwards* in love for God.

COMMUNITY: The Way Back to Christ, adopted in the Beloved relationship with his people. This value presses our church *inwards* in love for Neighbor | We are the Family of and brought into covenantal relationship with his people. This value presses our one another.

MISSION: The Way the Embassy of Christ, Savior to be his ambassadors. This value presses our church *outwards* in love for the Back to City | We are commissioned by the unbelieving.



Your Next Steps

When approaching the Christian faith and life, it can be confusing to know where to even begin. Come find us at the Next Steps Table after the service—it would be our joy to help you along in the journey! And if you're a visitor, we have a special gift bag for you. Don't miss it!



Mail: PO Box 23806, San Jose, CA 95153
Phone: (408) 320-7080
Email: info@mercyhillchurch.org
Web: mercyhillchurch.org



Welcome to Mercy Hill Church.
We are so glad you've joined us today!

Announcement Spotlight

Missions Emphasis Week - March 15-22!

Mercy Hill's Missions Emphasis Week this year will run from March 15th thru March 22nd. Here are a few things to look forward to:

- We'll be kicking off the first Sunday of this week (3/15) with a special message from Nick.
- On the second Sunday of this week (3/22) we'll have a guest-speaker bringing us God's Word followed by an international potluck lunch (sign-up today)!

We hope you can engage with us in this as we learn and grow together to be, ". . . witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at info@mercyhillchurch.org.

Bags of Love - Donations Needed Today!

All Church Prayer - Tonight!

International Food Fair (Potluck) - Next Sunday!

Easter @ Mercy Hill!

Easter Egg Hunt & Family Fun Outreach Event - Volunteers Needed!

All Church Campout - June 26-28

Scan the QR code below for more info and clickable content!

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