

## **SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE**

### **Multiply – Week 1: “All Authority”**

Text: Matthew 28:18

#### **ICEBREAKER (5–7 MINUTES)**

Have you ever been in a situation where no one was clearly in charge? What happened?

Why does clarity of authority matter in chaotic situations?

**Transition:** Just like that intersection without power, our lives can feel chaotic when we try to lead ourselves. Today we’re talking about what changes when Jesus steps in with all authority.

#### **READ THE TEXT (2–3 MINUTES)**

**Matthew 28:18**

Encourage someone else to read it a second time slowly.

#### **OBSERVATION (What does the text say?)**

What stands out to you in this verse?

Why do you think Jesus starts with authority before giving the command to “go”?

What does “all authority in heaven and on earth” include?

#### **TEACHING REINFORCEMENT (Leader Insight)**

Authority (Greek: exousia – ex-oo-SEE-ah): The right to rule, power to act, and rightful dominion

This authority is:

- Complete (nothing outside it)
- Divine (given by God)
- Active (not theoretical—it affects our lives daily)

Connect to the Old Testament:

Daniel 7:13–14 → Jesus’ authority was promised

Psalms 103:19 → God reigns over everything

#### **INTERPRETATION (What does it mean?)**

What’s the difference between believing Jesus has authority and living under it?

Why do you think people are comfortable with Jesus as Savior but struggle with Him as Lord?

How does understanding His authority change the way we view fear, uncertainty, or control?

**APPLICATION (What do we do with it?)** This is the most important section—slow down here.

What area of your life is hardest to surrender to Jesus right now?

- Relationships
- Finances
- Decisions
- Future

Where are you still “negotiating obedience” instead of submitting?

What fear is keeping you from fully trusting His authority?

### **KEY APPLICATION TRUTHS (Reinforce)**

His authority is not oppressive—it is protective

Surrender is not weakness—it is alignment with truth

You will never walk in His mission until you submit to His authority

### **GROUP EXERCISE (5–10 MINUTES) “Surrender Inventory”**

Have everyone quietly reflect and (if comfortable) write down:

👉 One area they need to fully surrender to Jesus

What would surrender actually look like this week?

**PRAYER TIME (10–15 MINUTES)** Break into smaller groups if possible.

Pray specifically:

- Surrender of control
- Trust in Jesus’ authority
- Freedom from fear, insecurity, and doubt
- Boldness to live under His Lordship

### **LEADER TIP**

If conversation stays surface-level, gently press deeper:

“That’s good—but what does that look like in real life this week?”

“What’s actually at stake if you don’t surrender this?”

Always lead with grace—but don’t avoid truth.