



Disciples Who Make Disciples...Who Make Disciples

Main text: And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - **Matthew 28:18-20 (NASB)**

This verse is typically known as the “Great Commission”. In essence, this is the greatest directive that Christ gave to his disciples. It is His “Standing Orders”. No matter the season, no matter the situation, disciples of Christ will always have a mandate to “make disciples”.

The Authority of Jesus

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.” – **Matthew 28:18**

Question: Why is it important for Jesus to declare this before presenting his mandate for discipleship?

- **Authority** – *exousia* – power of choice; the liberty of doing as one pleases; the power of influence and privilege.
 - **Question:** What is the implication of this level of authority being granted to Jesus in heaven and on the earth?
- **The Big Idea:** This Commission flows out of His authority, not ours.

The Assignment of the Church

“Go therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you;” – Matthew 28:19,20



NOTES



There are **5 aspects** to this assignment:

- **Go – *poureuō*** – to pursue the journey; to **actively** move or travel
 - There is an active intentionality of reaching people. There is a **moving** from your place, and “going” to another place. It can imply a journey or process of reaching people.
- **Make Disciples or Disciple – *matheteuō*** – to teach or instruct;
 - To actively disciple someone; follow the pattern or structure of discipleship that Jesus used with his disciples. (Our focus of study for the next few weeks)
- **All Nations – *ethnos*** – **all** tribes, **all** nations, **all** people groups
 - Every single person on earth is fair game for discipleship.
- **Baptizing them** – bringing people into an identifiable **relationship** with Jesus Christ and His **community**.
 - The “sinner’s prayer” did not exist when the Great Commission was given. The sign that a person made a faith commitment was water baptism.
- **Teaching them to follow or observe** –
 - **Teaching** – *didaskō* – to impart instruction; to **explain** or expound a thing; to **show** someone how to do something
 - **Observe** – *tereo* – to attend to carefully; to **guard**;
- **The Big Idea**: The mission is not complete when someone believes; disciple-making involves helping people to **follow** Jesus.

The Assurance of His Presence

“And behold I am with you **always**, to the end of the age.” – Matthew 28:20

- We will not fulfill this commission alone.
- **The Big Idea**: Jesus does not stop at just sending his disciples...He **accompanies** His disciples in making disciples.