

Go ~ Matthew 28:18–20 and Acts 1:8

Christ gathers us and grows us. Then He sends us. Jesus says, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.”

1. Why do we go?

a.) *We go because Jesus Christ has all authority.* Ephesians 1 says the Father seated Him above every rule and power, with all things under His feet. He reigns over Rock Valley and every village, over the home, school, farm, and government office. As Abraham Kuyper said, there is not one square inch over which Christ does not cry, “Mine!” Jesus owns every space, so He sends us into every space.

b.) *That He may be enjoyed and worshiped.* He intends to gather His people. “I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice” (John 10:16). Christ gathers His sheep through the gospel. Revelation shows them worshiping before His throne from every nation, tribe, people, and language. “Let the nations be glad and sing for joy” (Psalm 67:4).

2. How do we go?

Jesus says to make disciples, baptize them, and teach them to obey Him. The ordinary vehicle of that commission is the church. The apostles planted churches that preached, baptized, cared for their neighbors, and sent more workers. Christ forms disciples in His church and sends them out.

Paul calls us Christ’s ambassadors with a “ministry of reconciliation” (2 Corinthians 5). We tell people that Jesus died for sinners and rose again: “Be reconciled to God.” We also live as though Christ really is King. Work honestly. Teach children well. Care for the sick and the stranger. Make beautiful things. Show mercy. Excellent work cannot replace the cross, but our deeds should make visible the kingdom we proclaim with our words.

“GO”

3. Where do we go?

Jesus says, “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

We need a hand in all three.

Our Jerusalem is right in front of us: family, neighbors, coworkers, children, and friends. Learn a neighbor’s name. Pray for an unbelieving friend. Invite someone to supper. Serve with Trinity’s children and youth, GEMS, Cadets, or MomCo.

Our Judea and Samaria include Justice For All, Love INC, Hope Haven, ATLAS, Compassion Child Care, New Roots, and the prison churches. Volunteer, mentor, serve a meal, offer your skills, or visit someone forgotten. Ask where God has already put people before you.

And there are the ends of the earth. Pray for and support One Body One Hope in Liberia, Resonate Global Mission, and other missionaries and church planters. Some may take a trip; some may pack up their lives and go for years. Do not despise the small act of going, and do not assume Christ will ask only something small of you.

Is there a person God keeps putting in your mind? A ministry you have meant to call? Isaiah says, “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news.” Pray for one person. Make the call. Cross the street, the state, or the ocean. The nations belong to Jesus.

We gather. We grow. And then the King says, **Go!**