

I RECEIVE IT!

THERE'S NOTHING GREATER BIBLE STUDY LESSON

WEEK 15

SCRIPTURE LESSON

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. **Amen.**” (Matthew 28:18–20 (KJV)

I. Introduction.....One of the greatest gifts God has ever given humanity is not intelligence, talent, wealth, influence, or ability.....

A. Continued | One of the greatest gifts is the power of choice. God created every person with human volition, the God given ability to accept or reject anything...

1. Throughout Scripture, God consistently places opportunities before His people but never removes their responsibility to choose. Joshua stood before Israel and declared, ***“Choose you this day whom ye will serve” (Joshua 24:15)***. Moses challenged the nation by saying, ***“I have set before thee life and death... therefore choose life” (Deuteronomy 30:19)***. Jesus looked over Jerusalem and sorrowfully declared, ***“How often would I have gathered thy children together... and ye would not!” (Matthew 23:37)***.

2. God opens doors, but we decide whether to walk through them. He extends His hand, but we decide whether to take it. He offers salvation, purpose, and eternal life, but every individual must decide whether to receive His invitation. The Christian life is filled with divine invitations waiting upon human response. Every promise requires faith. Every command requires obedience. Every blessing requires acceptance. The Bible begins with God speaking, but it continually asks humanity the same question: “Will you receive what I have said?”

B. I will never forget this as long as I live! Hurricane Ike struck the Gulf Coast with what I would call a quiet storm. It was the hurricane that destroyed everything with no horrific winds, just a little rain everyday. When it finished raining, it left 57 feet of water behind for us to deal with in its aftermath. Antioch opened its doors to begin helping people with necessities and God supplied our every need. However, to add insult to injury the city of Beaumont's water system failed and the entire metropolis was without water for nearly 11 days! One day while serving thousands of people food and water a group of white men showed up from the Arian Nation sporting swastika's, German flags from Hitler's private bunker and white nationalist paraphernalia. They pulled up in the parking lot of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and said they were here to cook lunch for us! They pulled out huge steel pots, rice, sausage, shrimp, beans, onion, garlic and celery! They cooked it up big time. We had prayed for a way to feed all of our people, but the answer to our prayer was not wrapped in the package we thought it should have been wrapped in. Here's the shout, we ate, hugged, prayed and fed everybody! Here's the moral of the story, when God provides for you what He needs from you is heart ready to receive what He is going to provide!

C. Analysis of the Text

1. The final word of the Great Commission is not accidental. Jesus concludes His final earthly commission with one small but powerful word: **"Amen."** While we often think of **"Amen"** as merely the word we say at the conclusion of a prayer, its meaning is far richer than that. The Hebrew word **"Amen"** comes from the root word aman, meaning "to make firm," "to establish," "to support," "to believe," "to trust," or "to stand upon something that cannot fail."

2. Throughout the Old Testament, when God's people declared "Amen," they were saying, "It is true." "I agree." "Let it be so." "I receive it." "I stand upon it." In the synagogue of first century Judaism, after the reading of God's Word, the congregation would respond together with "Amen." They were not simply ending the service; they were publicly declaring that they accepted God's Word as truth and willingly placed themselves underneath its authority. Their "Amen" was an act of covenant agreement. It was their declaration that what God had spoken, they would receive.

D. Inclusion

With this in mind, there are some things that you should receive that God has provided for you free of charge. Here is a list of just some of those things and each one of them requires reception from you in order to possess it.....

1. **Receive Jesus Christ to Possess Eternal Life**
 - Before anyone can possess eternal life, they must first receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
 - Scriptures: John 1:12; John 3:16; John 5:24; 1 John 5:11-13
2. **Receive the Holy Spirit to Possess Spiritual Power**
 - The Spirit is God's gift to every believer, empowering them to live victoriously and serve effectively.
 - Scriptures: Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38; Romans 8:9-11; Galatians 5:16-25
3. **Receive God's Grace to Possess Strength for Living**
 - Grace is more than unmerited favor; it is divine enablement for daily life and ministry.
 - Scriptures: Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 4:16; Titus 2:11-12
4. **Receive God's Word to Possess Spiritual Growth**
 - The Word received into the heart produces faith, maturity, wisdom, and obedience.
 - Scriptures: James 1:21; 1 Peter 2:2; Colossians 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:16-17
5. **Receive Forgiveness to Possess Personal Freedom**
 - God's forgiveness removes guilt, restores fellowship, and liberates the believer from condemnation.
 - Scriptures: Acts 10:43; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 2:13-14; Romans 8:1
6. **Receive the Love of God to Possess Peace and Security**
 - When believers receive God's love, they are established in confidence, assurance, and spiritual stability.
 - Scriptures: Romans 5:5; Ephesians 3:17-19; 1 John 4:16-19; John 14:27
7. **Receive the Promises of God to Possess His Blessings**
 - God's promises become experiential realities when they are embraced by faith.
 - Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 1:20; Hebrews 6:12; Joshua 21:45; 2 Peter 1:3-4
8. **Receive God's Correction to Possess Wisdom**
 - Divine discipline shapes character and prepares believers for greater usefulness.
 - Scriptures: Proverbs 3:11-12; Proverbs 9:9; Hebrews 12:5-11; Revelation 3:19
9. **Receive the Kingdom by Faith to Possess Kingdom Living**

- Christ calls believers to receive the Kingdom with childlike faith and live under His rule.
- Scriptures: Mark 10:15; Luke 12:32; Hebrews 12:28; Colossians 1:13

10. Receive the Great Commission to Possess the Joy of Kingdom Purpose

E. Parallel-As the Great Commission concludes it is clear that what the Lord needs is some believers who can hear what has been commanded and receive what has been declared!

F. Proposition - With this in mind, AMEN means I RECEIVE IT in its purest since. What is the term AMEN for Christians today?

II. A DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT

A. Practical Idea-The first word that God is looking for from every disciple is not “Go.” It is “Yes.” Before our feet can move, our heart must agree. Every act of obedience begins with an act of agreement.

B. Principle

1. The word “Amen” is much more than the closing of a prayer; it is the surrender of a life. Every time God speaks, Heaven waits to hear our response. “Amen” declares, “Lord, I believe You. I trust You. I accept what You have spoken, even before I understand how You will accomplish it.” Genuine discipleship always begins with agreement. Before God changes our circumstances, He changes our hearts. Before He changes our direction, He changes our decision. Agreement always precedes obedience because no one will ever obey what they have not first accepted as true.

2. Matthew concludes the Great Commission with this awesome word “Amen.” This is not just a literary ending but a theological invitation. Throughout Scripture, “Amen” signifies certainty, truth, affirmation, and wholehearted agreement with the Word of God. Jesus has just declared His absolute authority, issued His worldwide commission, and promised His continual presence. The final “Amen” becomes the proper response of every disciple who hears His voice. It is as though Christ says, “Here is My commission,” and every believer answers, “I receive it. I agree with it. I accept it. I will live it.”

3. The Greek word translated “Amen” is the transliteration of the Hebrew word amen, preserving its rich covenantal meaning. In Jewish worship, the congregation responded with “Amen” after hearing the Scriptures read, thereby publicly affirming that God’s Word was absolutely trustworthy and binding upon their lives. Saying “Amen” was not just verbal participation; it was covenant commitment. It declared, “What God has spoken, I receive without reservation.”

4. Likewise, the Great Commission demands more than admiration. It demands agreement. Every believer who accepts Christ’s final command is, in effect, saying, “Amen.”

5. Now here’s the shout! The entire Bible is filled with men and women who demonstrated that agreement with God always comes before moments filled with things that are miraculous!

-Noah agreed with God before the rain ever fell. Abraham agreed before he ever saw Canaan.

-Moses agreed before Pharaoh ever surrendered. Joshua agreed before the walls ever collapsed.

-Gideon agreed before the Midianites were defeated.

-David agreed before Goliath ever hit the ground.

-Peter agreed before he ever stepped out of the boat.

-Paul agreed before he ever preached his first sermon.

-Every great movement of God began when someone first said, “Amen.”

C. Practical Application Agreement with God changes everything.

When you say “Amen” to God...

1. You agree that His Word is true, even when your feelings say otherwise.
2. You trust His promises before you ever see His provision.
3. You obey His instructions before you understand His strategy.
4. You submit to His authority because He knows more than you.
5. You exchange your plans for His purpose.
6. You believe His report above the report of the world.

7. You stand on Scripture instead of standing on emotion.
8. You allow His truth to become your reality.
9. You surrender your will to His perfect will.
10. You choose faith over fear.
11. You choose obedience over convenience.
12. You choose commitment over comfort.
13. You choose God's timing over your own.
14. You stop arguing with God and start agreeing with Him.
15. You discover that every miracle begins with an "Amen."

D. Philosophy-Dr. Cleopatrik Lacy says, "God never asks us to understand everything before we obey Him. He simply asks us to agree with Him. Every act of obedience is faith saying, 'Amen,' before the miracle ever arrives." This is called Fiduciary Faith.

1. Fiducia (Latin) means trust or personal reliance.
2. Saving faith has three parts in it
 - Notitia - knowledge
 - Assensus - intellectual agreement
 - Fiducia - personal trust that leads to action

3. When you receive what God wants you to have your amen says "God I trust you with the outcome of this matter just like I trust you with my eternal salvation!"

E. Biblical Illustration-

1. Genesis 6 provides one of the greatest illustrations of biblical agreement. God told Noah that judgment was coming through a flood unlike anything the world had ever experienced. Rain had never fallen upon the earth in the manner God described. There was no visible evidence that what God said would ever happen.

2. Yet Hebrews 11:7 declares that "By faith Noah... prepared an ark." Noah's hammer became his "Amen." Every nail he drove into the ark declared, "God is right." Every board he lifted testified, "I believe His Word." Every year he continued building proclaimed that God's promise was more certain than the opinions of the unbelieving world.

3. Noah did not simply say "Amen" with his mouth; he preached it with his obedience. His agreement with God ultimately saved his entire household.

F. Practical Illustration-Earlier this year I was blessed with the opportunity to preach the citywide revival in San Francisco California. I noticed a newspaper article in a restaurant that shared some city history. Here's what the article shared. It said that years ago, engineers began construction on the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Long before thousands of automobiles crossed it each day, workers began laying massive foundations deep beneath the waters of the bay. During those early months there was no bridge for people to see. There were no cables stretching across the skyline. There was no visible evidence to people passing by that one of the greatest engineering marvels in history was taking shape. Yet every rivet installed, every cable fastened, and every beam secured declared confidence in the architect's blueprint. The workers trusted the design long before they experienced the finished product. They agreed with the plans before they saw the promise. I shouted before I ever ate my lunch! You see, faith in the Lord says "Amen" to God's blueprint before His finished work ever becomes visible. God's people do not wait until they see the bridge completed before agreeing with Him. We agree because we trust the Architect!

G. Moment of Meditation: Look at your life closely. Write down five specific things that you are bringing your life into agreement with God on. For example, I agree with God concerning my health.

III. A DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE

A. Practical Idea-Agreement with God is only the beginning. Acceptance is where discipleship truly begins. It is possible to agree that Jesus is Lord and still refuse what He wants for you. Many believers gladly receive Christ as Savior but hesitate to receive Him as Lord and Master.

1. When Jesus concluded His earthly ministry, He did not leave His disciples with a building, a budget, or an organization. He placed into their hands the greatest mission ever entrusted to humanity. He said, "Go." He said, "Teach."

He said, "Baptize." He said, "Make disciples." Then He promised, "Lo, I am with you always."

2. Saying "Amen" means accepting every part of that divine assignment. We receive not only His blessings but also His burden. We embrace not only His promises but also His purpose. We welcome not only the hope of heaven but also the responsibility of bringing others there. Every believer must eventually decide whether Christianity will simply become something they enjoy or whether it will become something they embrace.

B. Principle From the Passage

1. The Great Commission is filled with imperatives. Jesus does not offer suggestions; He issues commands. The verbs "Go," "Teach," "Baptize," and "Teach them to observe" are all expressions of Christ's authority flowing directly from His declaration that "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18). Because Jesus possesses all authority, His disciples have no authority to refuse His assignment.

2. The closing "Amen" therefore becomes the disciple's declaration of acceptance. In the Hebrew Scriptures, "Amen" often signified receiving and embracing what God had spoken. It was more than verbal affirmation; it was covenant participation. To say "Amen" was to place oneself under the authority of God's Word. Thus, every believer who sincerely says "Amen" to the Great Commission is accepting ownership of Christ's mission.

3. Notice carefully that Jesus did not commission pastors only. He did not commission apostles only. He commissioned disciples. Every believer inherits the same assignment. The Great Commission is not the responsibility of a select few but the privilege of every follower of Christ. The commission is not optional because the Commander is sovereign.

4. Throughout Scripture, God consistently places divine assignments into ordinary hands.

-Moses accepted a shepherd's staff and watched God turn it into an instrument of miracles (Exodus 4).

-David accepted a sling and defeated a giant (1 Samuel 17).

-A little boy accepted the responsibility of surrendering five loaves and two fish, and Jesus fed thousands (John 6).

-The widow of Zarephath accepted the command to give Elijah her last meal and experienced supernatural provision (1 Kings 17).

-The disciples accepted Christ's commission, and within one generation the Gospel spread throughout the known world (Acts 17:6).

-God's greatest works have always been accomplished by ordinary people willing to accept extraordinary assignments.

C. Practical Application-With this in mind, what do you accept when you say Amen to the Lord Jesus Christ? When I say "Amen" to Jesus...

1. I accept His mission as my mission.
2. I accept His burden for lost souls.
3. I accept the responsibility of making disciples.
4. I accept that someone else's eternity matters to God.
5. I accept that I have been saved for more than my own benefit.
6. I accept that every day is another opportunity to represent God
7. I accept that obedience is not selective but complete.
8. I accept the inconvenience that often accompanies Kingdom work.
9. I accept that sharing the Gospel is not merely a gift but a responsibility.
10. I accept that the Great Commission begins where I live.
11. I accept that my family is my first mission field.
12. I accept that my workplace is a mission field.
13. I accept that my community deserves to hear about Jesus.
14. I accept that God will equip everyone He calls.
15. I accept that if Christ promised His presence, I never serve alone.

D. Philosophy-The moment we truly say 'Amen,' we stop asking whether the mission belongs to us and begin asking with whom should the mission begin.

E. Biblical Illustration-One of the best pictures of acceptance in scripture is found in Isaiah's call (Isaiah 6:1-8). After the death of a loved one (the passing of his uncle Uzziah), witnessing the holiness of God, confessing his own sinfulness, and receiving cleansing from the altar, Isaiah overheard the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" God did not force Isaiah to serve. He presented the

opportunity. Isaiah's response became one of the greatest "Amen" in Scripture: "Here am I; send me."

Notice that Isaiah did not first ask where he would go. He did not ask how difficult the assignment would become. He did not negotiate the conditions of his service. He accepted God's mission before he knew its details. His acceptance preceded God's explanation. Every disciple eventually stands where Isaiah stood. The question is never whether the harvest exists. The question is whether someone will say, "Here am I." Every "Here am I" is another way of saying, "Amen."

F. Practical Illustration

Imagine you're a college senior. For four years you've worked, sacrificed, and dreamed about one opportunity. Then one afternoon your phone rings.

The caller says, "Congratulations! We would like to offer you the position." It's your dream job.

The salary is more money than anyone in your family has ever made. The benefits are incredible. The office is beautiful. Your future has just changed with one phone call.

But before you can celebrate, the recruiter says, "There is one condition. We need your answer today. If you accept, you'll need to relocate across the country within two weeks. You'll leave your comfort zone, your friends, your routines, and everything familiar. We can't promise it will be easy, but we can promise it will be worth it."

At that moment, everything comes down to one word.

Yes! That one word changes your address. That one word changes your schedule. That one word changes your priorities. That one word changes your future. Nothing changes until you answer.

The Christian life works the very same way!

When Jesus says, "Follow Me," He is extending Heaven's invitation. He never promises that following Him will always be comfortable, popular, or convenient. But He does promise that it will always have eternal significance.

Every time we say, "Amen," we're saying our "yes" to Christ.

We're saying, "Yes, Lord.....I'll follow You....I'll trust You....I'll obey You....I'll serve You....I'll forgive....I'll give....I'll go wherever You send me."

"Amen" is not simply the last word of a prayer. It is the first word of a surrendered life! It is the believer signing Heaven's offer letter and saying, "Lord, my answer is yes!"

G. Meditation Moment: What do you need to say YES to in your walk with the Lord Jesus Christ? Be open and honest with your answer.

IV. A DECLARATION OF ACTION

A. Practical Idea

1. The final proof that I have truly said "Amen" is not found in my words but in my walk. Real faith always moves. Real belief always behaves. Real agreement always produces action. Throughout Scripture, whenever God spoke, those who genuinely believed Him did something. Noah built. Abraham left. Moses confronted Pharaoh. Joshua marched. David fought. Peter followed. Paul preached. None of them merely admired God's commands; they acted upon them.

2. The Great Commission was never intended to become information stored in the mind. It was designed to become demonstration through the life of every disciple. Jesus never commanded His followers simply to learn about discipleship. He commanded them to make disciples. Christianity has never been measured merely by what we know but by what we do with what we know.

3. The final "Amen" of the Great Commission is therefore not simply the last word of Matthew's Gospel. It is the first step of every believer's mission. True "Amen" leaves the sanctuary. It enters neighborhoods. It walks into schools. It serves in communities. It reaches across cultures. It shares the Gospel with

strangers. It loves the forgotten. It forgives the offender. It feeds the hungry. It comforts the brokenhearted. It stands for righteousness. It lives for Christ. If our feet never move, our “Amen” never happened.

B. Principle From the Passage-Jesus does not just command His disciples to believe the Gospel; He commands them to carry it. The verbs of the Great Commission are active, intentional, and continuous. “Go ye therefore...” “Teach all nations...” “Baptizing them...” “Teaching them to observe...” These are not passive responsibilities. They require movement, engagement, sacrifice, and perseverance.

1. The promise, “Lo, I am with you alway,” was never given to spectators. It was given to participants. Christ promises His continual presence to those actively engaged in His mission. His presence accompanies His purpose.

2. Throughout the New Testament, faith is consistently demonstrated through obedience. James declares, “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:17). Jesus Himself taught, “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). Luke records that the early church turned the world upside down because they refused to keep the Gospel within the walls of Jerusalem (Acts 17:6). Their “Amen” became visible in their lives.

4. With this in mind, every believer eventually reaches the place where “Amen” must become a verb. It must become something we do instead of something we just say.

C. Practical Application-When my “Amen” becomes my action here’s what happens.....

1. My faith leaves the pew and enters the streets.
2. My Bible becomes visible through my behavior.
3. My testimony becomes louder than my words.
4. My compassion becomes intentional.
5. My generosity becomes joyful.
6. My forgiveness becomes unconditional.
7. My worship becomes a lifestyle.
8. My service becomes consistent.
9. My witness becomes fearless.
10. My obedience becomes immediate.
11. My love becomes practical.
12. My sacrifice becomes cheerful.
13. My influence becomes Kingdom focused.

14. My life becomes a living sermon.
15. My everyday life becomes an extension of the Great Commission.

D. Philosophy-An 'Amen' that never leaves the cathedral has never reached the heart. In this stead, the most obedient 'Amen' is not heard at the end of a sermon, it is seen in the life of an obedient disciple. Here's the point, heaven is not listening for louder Amens; it is looking for Amens that live."

E. Biblical Illustration-In Acts 3. Peter and John were on their way to the Temple when they encountered a lame man begging at the Beautiful Gate. They could have offered sympathy. They could have quoted Scripture. They could have simply walked past him. Instead, Peter declared, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."

Then the Scripture says, "And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up." Peter did not merely speak faith; he acted upon it. He reached. He touched. He lifted. He believed that the Christ who commissioned him was still working through him.

That is what "Amen" looks like. It is faith with sleeves rolled up. It is belief that gets its hands dirty. It is conviction expressed through compassionate action.

F. Practical Illustration-Not long ago an elderly woman of our church needed a new roof. She still had a blue roof on her house from a hurricane that happened over ten years ago. While sitting in her Sunday School class she simply made a prayer request for the class to pray for her because every time it rains it leaks all over her house. Before the class was over a team of godly men were buying shingles, preparing to have the roof fixed and one of my oldest Deacons called me and said "Pastor I just wanted you to know that we are fixing the roof of one of our widows homes in Port Arthur. We received her prayer request and before class was over money came rolling in. If this request gets to you just know we already have it handled!" I said thank you so much! When I hung up the phone the Lord whispered to my soul and said "That's what Amen looks like!" It is not just talk! It is faith in action!

V. Conclusion and Celebration

A. Here's the shout of the lesson!

1. When the men arrived at her home to install her new roof SHE RECEIVED IT!
2. Her mind received it.....Her heart received it.....Her soul received it....Her spirit received it....SHE RECEIVED IT because God provided it for her!

B. As we conclude this series on the Great Commission there are some things you need to receive! Declare these things over your life and receive them!

I receive salvation from the sin that once condemned me.

I receive forgiveness for every failure that has been confessed before God.

I receive grace for every weakness I cannot overcome on my own.

I receive mercy for every moment I deserved judgment.

I receive peace in the middle of every storm that seeks to disturb my soul.

I receive joy that is greater than my circumstances.

I receive strength for every battle that lies before me.

I receive wisdom for every decision that demands God's direction.

I receive courage for every fear that attempts to paralyze my faith.

I receive healing for every place where life has left me broken.

I receive deliverance from everything that seeks to bind my mind, my heart, and my spirit.

I receive blessing in the place of every curse the enemy has tried to assign to my life.

I receive hope in every area that appears hopeless.

I receive favor where doors have been closed before me.

I receive provision for every need according to God's riches in glory.

I receive victory over every temptation that seeks to defeat me.

I receive purpose beyond my pain and destiny beyond my disappointment.

I receive restoration for everything the enemy has stolen from my life.

I receive boldness to stand for Christ in a world that opposes Him.

I receive discernment to recognize truth in the midst of deception.

I receive faith to trust God when I cannot trace Him.

I receive patience while God works behind the scenes on my behalf.

I receive endurance to remain faithful until God's promises are fulfilled.

I receive freedom from guilt because Christ has already paid my debt.

I receive the power of the Holy Spirit to live the life God has called me to live.

I receive the promises of God knowing that every promise in Christ is “Yes” and “Amen.”

I receive God’s unfailing love that nothing in heaven or earth can separate me from.

I receive Christ’s authority over every attack of the enemy.

I receive the assignment God has prepared specifically for my life.

I receive the Great Commission as my personal mission until Jesus Christ returns.

And because I have received from the Lord...

I will walk by faith.

I will live by His Word.

I will love without condition.

I will forgive without hesitation.

I will serve without complaint.

I will worship without reservation.

I will witness without fear.

I will obey without delay.

I will trust without doubting.

I will follow wherever Jesus leads.

I receive it.

I believe it.

I will live it.

AMEN!!!!!!