



The Great Commission

Sunday, August 9, 2020



TALK
ABOUT IT

- What authors, celebrities, personalities, etc. influence how you think through issues?



PRAYER

Jesus calls us to follow Him in making disciples. It is a constant theme in His teaching, starting back in the Sermon on the Mount. Read these words and then pray in your own words.

Matthew 5:14-16

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

(more on next page)



SERMON + WORSHIP

Watch this week's Sermon and Worship Set
(reminder, it's easiest to watch it from the YouTube playlist)



TALK ABOUT IT

- **The Great Commission starts with Jesus saying, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.'**
 - How should that comfort us as disciples? How should that challenge us to live differently?
- **Pastor Jon made the point that we are all making disciples, it's just a matter of what kind.**
 - Who are you being disciplined by? What kind of disciples are you making?
 - Using this passage and others, discuss who a disciple of Jesus is.
- **Jesus commands us to obey His teachings. At the same time, Ephesians 2:8 says we have been saved by grace through faith.**
 - What is the relationship between faith and works? Why is it still important that we obey?



PRACTICE POINTS

- **We are all making disciples of some kind and being disciplined by something. What people, news sources, etc. are discipling you more than Jesus?**
 - Make a list this week of influential voices in your life and make sure they are prioritized wisely.

- Pastor Jon hammered home that we are called to obey Jesus's teachings, not just know them. Which of Jesus' commands do you have a hard time obeying?
 - Intentionally pray each day this week for God to help you obey in the areas you struggle with.



Want additional content to dive into during the week? Try this:

These prompts can be used one-per-day or for an extended time on your own, with your spouse or family members, or with your small group:

- **The Great Commission is one of the most influential texts on our Christian walks. Read through the other post-Resurrection parallels Jesus gave to His disciples: Mark 16:14-20, Luke 24:44-49, John 20:21-23, Acts 1:6-8.**
 - What are the common themes between these texts? Why do you think each writer framed these conversations the way they did?
 - *It is important to recognize that Mark 16:14-20 is not a part of the earliest manuscripts. What parts of that particular passage strike you as odd? How is it's overall message similar to the Great Commission?*
 - Jesus starts in Matthew 28 by speaking of His authority. Look specifically at Daniel 7:13-14 and Romans 1:2-4. How do these passages relate to Jesus's declaration? Has Jesus's authority changed from what it was before, why or why not?
 - Most of these texts focus on the Holy Spirit empowering the disciples to do this work. How does this happen and what is the Spirit's role?
 - *Texts like John 14:15-31, John 16:4-15, Acts 2, Galatians 5:16-26, etc can help with this discussion.*

- What link do you see between God's promise to Abram in Genesis 12:3 and the command of the Great Commission?
 - How does Jesus change the way in which all the families of the earth are blessed?
- Jesus makes it clear we are to make disciples of all nations and to the ends of the earth. In doing so, Jesus put the final stamp that His kingdom was not confined to one ethnicity. Why did the disciples struggle with this during the book of Acts?
 - What does this mean for you as a disciple of Jesus living in America, how can you be involved with this call?
- In the Great Commission, Jesus is clear that His disciples obey His teachings. We are also clearly taught in Scripture that we are saved by faith, not works.
 - Read Romans 6, Ephesians 2:1-10, and James 2:14-26. How do these passages work together to explain the relationship between faith and works?
 - How does God's grace lead us into obedience?