

Make Disciples

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Learn Ministry / Evangelism; Discipleship; Mission / Matthew 28:18–20

For many of us, the Great Commission has become the Great Omission. Jesus' final command to His disciples before He left this earth was for us to make disciples. This is the most significant reason for the purpose and existence of the church. Unfortunately, most churches have turned into a cultural country club to nurture members. Though nurture is a large part of church life, mission is meant to be the center. Let's get refocused on mission.

John W. Gardner, founding chairman of Common Cause, said it's a rare and high privilege to help people understand the difference they can make -- not only in their own lives, but also in the lives of others, simply by giving of themselves.

Gardner tells of a cheerful old man who asked the same question of just about every new acquaintance he fell into conversation with: "What have you done that you believe in and you are proud of?"

He never asked conventional questions such as "What do you do for a living?" It was always, "What have you done that you believe in and are proud of?"

It was an unsettling question for people who had built their self-esteem on their wealth or their family name or their exalted job title.

Not that the old man was a fierce interrogator. He was delighted by a woman who answered, "I'm doing a good job raising three children;" and by a cabinetmaker who said, "I believe in good workmanship and practice it;" and by a woman who said, "I started a bookstore and it's the best bookstore for miles around."

"I don't really care how they answer," said the old man. "I just want to put the thought into their minds.

"They should live their lives in such a way that they can have a good answer.

- Sermon of Purpose

- We need

- purpose

- calling

- reason

- Jesus gave us

- our purpose

- just before

- leaving earth.

Setting The Stage

- Jesus had been arrested

- abused

- died

- buried

- Disciples
 - hopeless
 - hopeful
 - resurrection

- Angle at tomb

Matthew 28:7 ESV

Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.”

- Jesus appears to them
 - repeats command

Matthew 28:10 ESV

Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

- Obey
 - gather disciples

- To Galilee
 - Anxiety
 - Fear
 - Direction
 - Purpose

Matthew 28:16 ESV

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

- The crowd is anxious
 - some believe
 - some don't
 - some entertainment
- Hush falls on crowd
 - Jesus begins to talk.
 - 3 Verses.
 - 3 Sentences

- Walked a long way
 - to hear these words.

Matthew 28:18–20 **ESV**

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- These words
 - For Disciples:
 - important
 - urgent
 - precise
- For us
 - Today
 - important
 - urgent
 - precise

Eisenhower Matrix

“What is important is seldom urgent, and what is urgent is seldom important.”

- True
 - but
 - this case
- Both
 - Important
 - Urgent
- Christ
 - Last Word
 - Important
- Also

- Purpose
- Reason
- Direction
- Will

- Look at words of Jesus:

[Matthew 28:18](#) (ESV)

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

- First part,
 - no command
 - no direction
 - no instruction

- Statement

ALL AUTHORITY

- Do you know
 - who I Am?

- Do you know?

- Jesus Say:

- I Am
 - Alpha and Omega
 - Beginning and End
 - Amen

- I Am
 - Almighty
 - Bread of Life
 - Bridegroom

- I Am
 - Creator
 - Chief Cornerstone

- I Am
 - Gate
 - Good Shepherd

- Great High Priest
- I Am
 - Faithful and True
 - Holy and True
 - Horn of Salvation
- I Am
 - I Am
 - Immanuel
- I Am
 - King of kings
 - Lord of lords
- I Am
 - Lamb
 - Lion of the Tribe of Judah
- I Am
 - Morning Star
 - Rock and Refuge
 - Way, Truth, and Life

- I Am
 - Son of David
 - Son of Man
 - Son of God
- Could have said,
 - many things
- But said,

I AM THE POSSESSOR OF ALL AUTHORITY

- Meaning?
 - I got this.
 - This is mine.
 - I can do this.
- But guess what?
 - You are going to help!

- Really Both:
 - Promise
 - Calling
- The end:
 - Similar

[Matthew 28:20](#) (ESV)

“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- Another promise
 - I care.
 - I’m strong.
 - I’m able to see it through.
 - I’m here.
 - I won’t quit.
- But I AM with
 - **YOU!**

- Again,
 - Calling
 - Not just about Him
 - Doing it with us!
- God Gives a command
 - sandwiched between
 - two promises
 - two calls
- To be sure
 - we heard him
 - confidence to trust.
- Here comes the command..
 - I want you to....

[Matthew 28:19–20](#) (ESV)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

- One Sentence.
- Study it.
- In this sentence we have
 - 1 Verb
 - 3 Participles
- What is the difference?
 - Verb
 - Indicates Action
 - Participle
 - Verbs turn adjective
- Verb: Main Action
 - Participle Modifying how it is done.

- Four Words
 - Go
 - Make Disciples
 - Baptize
 - Teach
- Which is verb?

MAKE DISCIPLES

- Main Verb
- Only Verb
 - Make Disciples
- Furthermore
 - Imperative Verb
- Meaning
 - Command

- Thou Shalt...
 - Make Disciples

- Other Participles
 - Go
 - Baptize
 - Teach

- Modify:
 - You Make Disciples!

- How can I make disciples
 - Go
 - Baptize
 - Teach

- Our main mission
 - not baptizing
 - not even teaching

- making disciples
 - Fullest sense of the word.

Get Water Gun

run on streets

baptizing.

- Baptism without Discipling
 - Failure
- Teaching without Discipling
 - Failure
- Going without Discipling
 - Failure
- Those aid the process
- Those help the process
 - The package is called
 - Discipleship

- Furthermore,
 - Relationship
 - Social Connection
 - necessary.

- Error Happens
 - That becomes end
 - instead of
 - means to end.

- The goal is not
 - the relationship itself
- The goal is eternal life
 - relationship necessary element.

- Many Church,
 - Trying Love Ministry
 - Trying Friendship

- become country club.
- Create
 - atmosphere
 - social activities
 - fun
 - laughter
 - entertainment
- Generally good things
 - IF...
 - Built on foundation
 - Main Purpose.

Make Disciples

- Discipling
 - is who we are.

- is what we do.
 - is our purpose.
 - is reason for existence.
 - is call of the church.
-
- If we forget
 - Great Commission
 - Becomes
 - Great Omission

Ideas

- Home
- Work
- Recreation
- Church

Be Intentional

- Pick a Disciple

- Make Time
- Plan Vision
- What goals?
- How to reach them?

If you are not actively discipling someone, you are not experiencing you Christian calling.

Appeal

- Disciple Someone
- Seek Mentor
- Use Word