

# The Great Commission

October 20, 2013

## DAY 1: On Mission or On "A" Mission?

*Matt. 28:19-20 As you are going 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 obey everything I have given you. And lo, I am with you to the close of the age.*

1. We open this week with a great question. Are you *missional* or on "A" mission?

What's the difference? "ON mission" is a lifestyle choice. On "A" mission is a trip you take somewhere.

"A" mission is something we can ASPIRE to...we can go on ONE day...and provides us with the opportunity to make excuses as to why we can't go right now...

2. It's easy to make excuses for not going on a mission trip:

- I am TOO busy...
- I have kids...
- I don't have the money...

3. Going on "A" Mission trip is NOT the same as BEING MISSIONAL.

4. Being "missional" means I see every day with a sense of purpose. God wants to use me wherever I am and wherever I go to nudge people toward Jesus.

5. Most people are NOT called to be MISSIONARIES...

BUT EVERYONE IS CALLED to be MISSIONAL...

*Matt. 28:19-20 As you are going 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 obey everything I have given you. And lo, I am with you to the close of the age.*

6. The Great Commission is NOT asking US...

- Will you go on A mission trip someday for me, please?
- The Great Commission tells us to go and MAKE DISCIPLES...

7. Do you see your daily life as *missional*? Jot down your thoughts...

8. Pray that you will respond to God's call. Ask God that you engage with people.

## DAY 2: Your High Purpose

*Revelation 21:5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things **new**." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."*

1. The grand mission of God is to restore the world from its fallen state to a blessed state. This is centrally built around turning people away from living for themselves to living for Him.

Instead of our power and love, we can rely on His power and love to eventually permeate every part of our broken lives and relationships. It is a life of continual surrender of our ourselves to Him.

2. It's all too easy to make the Christian life all about your growth, to turn inward. That's a mistake! A good part of our own restoration is to be a people who are missional(!), to turn outward to the lives of others!

a. Is this how you think about your Christian life?

b. Is this how you think about your growth as a Christian?

3. Probably every day, there is something you can do to reflect the love of God for people. Put an "X" next to the ones you believe you could do in the next few weeks:

Say a word of appreciation to someone

Do something for someone else

Write a note to someone

Take a box of donuts to work

Ask someone how you can pray for them

Invite someone for coffee or lunch

4. Are there any things that come to your mind you could do, in addition?

5. Are there any of the above things you can do this week?

6. Ask God to open doors for you this week.

### **DAY 3: Make Disciples**

*Matt. 28:19-20 As you are going 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 obey everything I have given you. And lo, I am with you to the close of the age.*

1. C.S. Lewis said that the mission of the church is to make "little Christs." Does that jive with Jesus' final marching orders in these verses?

*Acts 11:26... and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.*

2. What were the early believers called?

3. Why do you think the word "Christian" came from? How does this word illustrate what a disciple is to be and do?

4. Jesus tells the disciples to get new believers started by baptism. What does baptism mean to you?

5. Baptism in the bible is a outward action/symbol of something profound that has happened inwardly. Check the items listed below with which you think about your baptism:

The washing of forgiveness

Heart cleansing

Death to the old life (when going under the water)

Raised to the new life (when coming up out of the water)

Identified with Christ in His baptism

6. What is the significance of Jesus adding how we're to be baptized? Why does He mention each member of the Trinity?

7. What is the next step for believers after baptism?

8. How are you doing in obeying God's word? Pray for your obedience.

## DAY 4: God's Role; My Role in Making Disciples

1. It is true that no one can change another human being. Even though we are commanded to "make disciples" that doesn't happen through our intelligence, will or power. God plays a significant role and He uses us to play a role.

Below is a list of verses where God plays a role and we play a role. **Underline** the roles that strike you:

*Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

*1 Corinthians 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.*

*Acts 26:18 ... to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'*

*Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. <sup>9</sup> Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

*Colossians 1:28 We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. <sup>29</sup> To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.*

*Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. <sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

2. In the following list, write "God" or "me" next to the role either God or you play in disciple-making:

- Verbal words spoken
- Power to change a heart
- Prayer
- Power to bring understanding
- Provide an example of someone who follows Christ
- Power to convict a heart of its sin
- Work, labor, energy
- Prayer
- Power to open blind eyes

## **DAY 5: God's Role; My Role in Making Disciples (cont.)**

*1 Corinthians 3:5 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe--as the Lord has assigned to each his task. <sup>6</sup> I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. <sup>7</sup> So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. <sup>8</sup> The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. <sup>9</sup> For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.*

1. What role does God play in disciple-making, according to 1 Cor. 3?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What roles do people play in disciple-making?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Paul finishes this passage with three analogies. Next to each, jot down your thoughts:
  - a. *"For we are God's fellow workers;*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. *"...you are God's field..."*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. *"...(you are) God's building."*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Much of our own discipleship in the Lord comes as a result of helping make disciples of others!!!! The slow way to grow is to make your life "just me and Jesus." You will find that's the way to either feeling haughty around other Christians or a growing loss of purpose and sense of meaning.
  - a. What thoughts strike you from this sentences?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Are you engaged in some way with helping at least one non-Christian come to faith?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. Are you engaged with helping a believer younger in the Lord to grow in their discipleship?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - d. If you need a jumpstart, get with someone who is engaged in the disciple-making process. Pick their brain; ask them for help.