

## **Walking into the World: The Great Commission**

**Thesis:** *I am commissioned by Jesus to bring his Good News into my world.*

### **Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV)**

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

### **Supportive Text: Philippians 2:6-11**

Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. 7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, 8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. 9 Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Supportive Text: Romans 6: 3-7**

3 Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? 4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. 5 Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. 6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. 7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin

### **FAMOUS LAST WORDS:**

**Ask:** What would you want to last words to be?

### **Website: Famous last words**

Here are some last words from "famous" people through out history.

<http://thechive.com/2017/10/29/17-darkly-humorous-last-words-from-famous-people-17-photos/>

### **Video: Famous Last Words (Rhett & Link)**

Watch some of all of these videos, maybe ask which they think are the best.

1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpdOyoqsXzo>

2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWqW3HWJsr8>

3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iLbfGlygOO>

**Trivia:** Here are some online quizzes around famous last words. Try taking a quiz together with your group.

<https://www.braingle.com/trivia/20911/famous-last-words.html>

[http://www.peoplequiz.com/trivia-quizzes-3123-Famous Last Words.html](http://www.peoplequiz.com/trivia-quizzes-3123-Famous_Last_Words.html)

**Ask:**

- Why are people fascinated by last words?

- Why might what you say at the end be important?
- Why might it not be important?
- How might a person's last words inspire others to live?

## **THE GREAT COMMISSION: Bible Study**

### **Background/Overview:**

Say something like this: Jesus had just risen from the dead and appeared to his disciples. They gathered on a mountain in Galilee to hear from him. In this passage he gave them what has come to be known as the Great Commission. Jesus' words to his disciples in this passage are well known and often quoted among Christians. More than a catchy slogan to inspire people to go on mission trips, it tells us what Jesus wants us to do as his followers. (from *The Complete NT Resources*)

- Can anyone quote the Great Commission?
- What is a commission? (an instruction, command, or duty given to a person or group of people. – Google)
- What does it mean to be commissioned?
- What do you think Jesus was commissioning them to do?
- Why do you think he uses his last words to give instruction?
- What does this say about the instructions he is leaving them with?

### **Read Matthew 28:16-20: The Great Commission**

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

### **"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me"**

- What does the word authority mean?  
Who is an authority figure in your life?
- What gives that person authority over you?
- What does it mean that Jesus has ALL authority?
- What do you think it means that Jesus was *given* authority? (see Philippians 2:6-11)
- What areas of your life have you given Jesus authority over?
- What areas have you kept for yourself? Why?

### **"Therefore go to all nations (into all the world)"**

- Why was it significant that Jesus was sending them to ALL Nations?
- In the Old Testament, Israel was to be a light to all nations. The nations were to see God shining from them, and be drawn to it. In the New Testament, Jesus is sending his disciples out into the nations. Why is the going out significant?
- What does that say about how we are to share our faith with others?
- What are the areas of the world that you interact in?
- How might your perspective change if you view these areas as places you have been sent to by Jesus?

**“Make disciples... baptizing them... teaching them to obey”**

- What does Jesus mean by make disciples?
- What is a disciple? How is that different than a follower?
- Why does Jesus instruct them to baptize? (see Romans 6:3-7)
- Why must obeying God be taught? Why does it not come natural?
- Who taught you how to follow Jesus?
- How are you teaching others for follow Jesus?

**“Surely I am with you always”**

- How might knowing Jesus was always with them bring the disciples comfort?
- How does it bring you comfort knowing that Jesus is always with you?
- How might it encourage you to live out the Great Commission?

**Make it Personal: The Great Commission:**

***“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”***

- Have your group close their eyes and listen to you read The Great Commission 3 times.
- Have them narrow in on one particular phrase which they feel
- Have them write that phrase on an index card/piece of paper/ in their Bible.
- Have them share their phrase and why that phrase is significant, and how God may be calling them to live that phrase out this next week.

**Prayer:**

*Invite your group into a time of silent prayer, giving them time to speak to God privately, and wrap it up by saying the Lord’s prayer together.*

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

Praise God that for what he has done for you, and that he has all authority in your life. (PAUSE)

**“Therefore, go into all the world”**

Invite God into the places that you will be going this week. (PAUSE)

**“Make disciples... teaching them to obey”**

Ask God to help you teach others about him through your words and actions. (PAUSE)

**“Surely I am with you always”**

Thank God that He is always there for you. (PAUSE)

**Close in the Lord’s Prayer**