

Discovery Group - Basic Commands

(7) *Go and Make Disciples*

Accountability

Share how your obedience commitment from last week went, and who you shared with.

Bible: **Matthew 28:16-20**

Read *passage* aloud & someone retell in their own words

- What do we learn from this passage about God?
- What do we learn from this passage about people?

Read the *article* on the next page.

- What is the significance of the Great Commission as a corporate, rather than individual, command?
- What hinders you from making disciples? How might you overcome these obstacles?

Commit

What is Jesus calling you to do in *obedience* this week?

Who can you *share* this with? Who can you reach out to in order to make disciples?

Abide: Read and meditate on the following passages this week:

Mark 16:15-20

Luke 24:44-49

Acts 1:1-8

John 20:21-23;

2 Timothy 2:1-10

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Go and Make Disciples

“Go and make disciples of all nations!” What a job to give to these eleven ragamuffins - all worshipping but some also doubting. Note that this command seems to be contingent on the idea of authority - specifically on the fact that Jesus has ‘all authority in heaven and on earth.’ This is significant for a couple of reasons. Clearly, Jesus has the authority to command His followers, even with such a preposterous assignment. But there also could be something in this of Jesus making His authority available to His apostles - His ‘sent ones.’ He has authority to command and He also has authority to share. His authority to make disciples somehow rests on those who go in His Name. They don’t make disciples in their own authority, but in His.

Note also that the command to make disciples has three elements.

- (1) Go.** Jesus’ people are to intentionally go other places to make disciples. Earlier, Jesus had said “For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.” Now He’s sending the Eleven out to do the same. They’ve got to go to the lost, to go to the nations, to go wherever Jesus is not known. And so must we.
- (2) Baptize.** This part of the command clearly implies the tasks of proclaiming the gospel and welcoming those who respond into the Father’s family. They are baptized into a new identity and into a new family and into a new life.
- (3) Teach them to obey.** According to Jesus, discipleship is ultimately about obedience. Our task is not to simply teach knowledge or to give good advice. It is to train in obedience. This requires knowledge (of God’s Word) and will include advising, but the end game is obedience.

Finally Jesus gives a wonderful promise. He Himself is with us. He doesn’t send us out alone on such an impossible commission.

This is your calling. You are called to make disciples. The goal is disciples of Jesus making disciples who make disciples, in a continuous movement. You cannot be a follower of Jesus and not carry this assignment. The good news is you are not expected to do so alone. Jesus is with you. And so are others. Jesus did not pull Peter aside and give him this word, but shared it with the Eleven.

Find your eleven (or two or three). Go to the lost. Proclaim the Gospel and welcome new believers. Teach them to obey.