A photograph of a wooden cross standing in a green field under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The cross is made of two weathered wooden beams. The text is overlaid on the lower-left portion of the image.

***GRCO 200***

***Textbook***

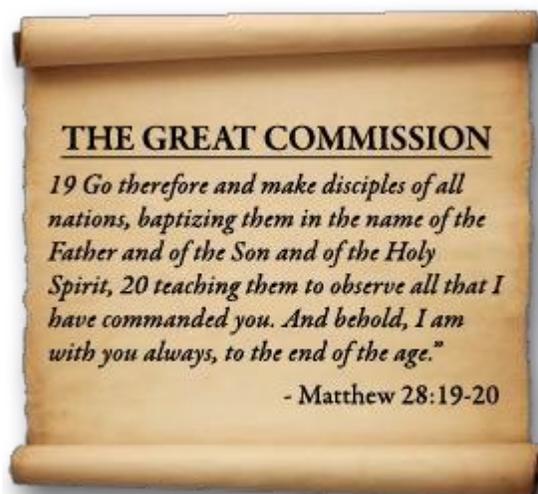
Compiled by

Hayley Moser

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# LESSON 1



## THE GREAT COMMISSION

*19 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, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

- Matthew 28:19-20

## INTRODUCTION

### TO THE GREAT COMMISSION

In the beginning of creation everything created by God was good. Man and woman were made and given responsibility over the earth. But man sinned, and sin came into the world. And his disobedience brought death both physical and spiritual.

Man died in his trespasses and sins, which culminated in eternal punishment. And because of this, all mankind is born a sinner.

**WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?** Hebrews 9:24; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 John 3:4

#### **WHAT RESULTS DO WE SEE?**

Man is born a sinner. Romans 3:23; 5:12

He is condemned because of Adam's sin which he inherits. Romans 6:23

Man has a fallen nature and continues to sin. God judges him as under sin and its dominion. Romans 1:18

Man is guilty of sin. Man is dead in sin. No hope for man on his own in this world. Ephesians 2:1-3, 12

Man is headed to eternal punishment, the lake of fire and brimstone. Hebrews 9:27; Mark 8:36 The penalty of sin is eternal separation from God. Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 20:11-15; Matthew 24:41, 46; Mark 9:43, 48.

Man cannot save himself or forgive his own sins. He cannot give himself eternal life. Or even clothe on God's righteousness by himself or herself. He even cannot include his name in the Book of life in heaven.

### **WHAT HAS GOD DONE BECAUSE OF THE STATE OF MAN?**

All men and women need God's salvation. God came up with a plan to save man from eternal damnation which is meant for the devil. 1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 5:6, 8; Hebrews 9:26; Hebrews 5:9; Romans 8:1

God sent His only begotten Son to come and bring redemption to mankind. God gave mankind salvation through Christ Jesus. John 14:6; Acts 4:10, 12; 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Timothy 2:5

### **WHAT SHOULD MAN DO THEN?**

Man needs to come back to a relationship with God.

#### **HOW?**

He needs to accept the way of salvation through Christ Jesus by repenting of his sins and embracing the righteousness of God. For all men and women need God's salvation. Repentance and renouncing of sin and receiving Christ as Lord and Savior are the keys to God's forgiveness and eternal life. Luke 13:5; Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10, 13; 1 John 1:9; Romans 5:8; John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21

### **THE DAY OF SALVATION IS NOW 2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 2:3**

Man left to his own way grows worse in sin, because his nature is an awful state of sin and degradation. That is why all believers must respond to the great commission of Jesus Christ. They should obey Christ and carry the great commission to the uttermost parts of the world. God desires that all men and women be saved. His heart-beat is souls and souls and souls. Jesus nevermore trees or something else but His people. Hell is meant for the Devil and his cohorts. Man has already been provided the way through the way of the Cross. His final destination is not hell, but the presence of God when man decides to

acknowledge and follow Christ in his or her life. The great commission is the primary call of God on the Church.

Evangelist Charles F. Parham, Founder of the Apostolic Faith Movement, in his book on Signs of His Coming Chapter VIII Page 38 says, “The gospel covers three subjects, viz: To give remission of sins (John 1:29), to destroy the works of the devil in disease and affliction (Matthew 8:17), and to baptize with the Holy Spirit (John 1:33, Mark 1:8).

## LESSON 2



### WHAT IS THE GREAT COMMISSION?

This is a command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to us as His followers and disciples. Matthew 28:19-20. Before His ascension, Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission command.

### WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF THE GREAT COMMISSION?

- 1) Jesus has all the authority both in heaven and in the earth. 1 Peter 3:22; Psalms 2:1-12; Ephesians 1:20-23 Disciples are commanded to – Go –
- 2) And make Disciples. Baptize them
- 3) Teaching them to observe all things.
- 4) And Jesus promises to be there with us all the time.

We are to go into the world and proclaim the Gospel to the entire creation. Mark 16:15 The preaching is for the creation's redemption. Romans 1:16; Hebrews 2:3

Believers are not expected to escape God's punishment when they neglect Christ's message of salvation. Believers will be punished for sin not repented. This salvation was confirmed then and should likewise be confirmed today. We need to preach the gospel.

Now the writer of Hebrews talks about salvation to be great. Why is it so?

1. Jesus Christ is the reason, who even preached it. Hebrews 1:3

2. He paid the price by His death, the death of the only God's begotten Son. John 3:16
3. Hebrews 1:6; Ephesians 3:18; Acts 13:47
4. And salvation is now. 2 Corinthians 6:2
5. Salvation is everlasting. Isaiah 45:17
6. Christ is the author of eternal salvation. Hebrews 5:9 Salvation comes with benefits. Psalm 103:2-5

### **What are the benefits of salvation? Psalm 103:4-5**

1. Bodily healing- Acts 3:16; 1 Peter 2:24
2. The salvation of the soul 1 Peter 1:9; Ephesians 1:7; 2 Corinthians 7:10
3. Deliverance- Isaiah 33:2; Exodus 14:13 Joy and peace Romans 5:1-2
4. God provides daily loads of benefits- Psalm 68:19
5. The source of salvation is God Himself. Psalm 25:5
6. Saved by grace through faith. Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3; 24-31

### **WHAT SHOULD WE PREACH?**

1. Christ and His crucifixion, death, and resurrection, 1 Corinthians 1:23; Acts 4:2;
2. The Kingdom of God. Luke 4:43; 16:16
3. The Gospel. Mark 16:15; Romans 1:15-16
4. The Word of God. Acts 16:6; Romans 10:8
5. Repentance and forgiveness of sins. Luke 24:47; Acts 13:38
6. Deliverance. Luke 4:18
7. Good tidings. Isaiah 61:1

All believers are commanded by Christ to take the gospel to the uttermost end of the earth. Because God loves His people and He has us as His mouth-piece we should, therefore, deliver the message we have as His witnesses. How could believers just be idle watching the world move into her degradation without hope when they have the answer in Christ? Jesus is the answer for the world today.

Let us be a blessing to many that need help and are to obtain life eternal

and deliverance through our Master the Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah. The Great Commission Bible College Mission Statement: The vision and purpose of Great Commission Bible College are to equip the saints for ministry through timely, cost-effective training. We desire to raise up a mighty army of men and women who are prepared to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through vision and spiritual preparation of the heart, and training in the Word of God, its principles, and methods.

### **WHY PREACH?**

Mark 16:16 The Gospel brings life for those who believe and accept Christ as their Savior. And to the disobedient brings death. But everyone is given an opportunity to hear and accept the Gospel of peace. Luke 24:47-48

The goal of the Great Commission is to preach the Gospel, and not a social gospel. This is because Christ calls us to repentance so that we could receive His forgiveness. Because of the state of man, we need to preach the gospel to the lost. Their only hope is Jesus Christ the Giver of Life. Without Him, one is lost and hopeless. Therefore, our commission is to witness-sharing Jesus accomplished work of redemption at the Cross, of His death and resurrection. Our mandate is to Go and take the Gospel of Salvation to all. Christ came to save the sinners and not the righteous.

## LESSON 3



### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

The believers have the responsibility to propagate the gospel. The Great Commission is the message in our reaching out to the lost. We are to share Christ to all, beginning with our neighbors and then to the uttermost part of the earth. The call of the believers and the church is to preach the gospel of peace to all. This is the business of the church. John 4:4-42. The fields are ripe for harvest. The other significance or purpose is to make disciples and not converts. It is a command from our Lord, Matthew 28:18 to take the gospel to all, and Mark 16:15-16. Jesus is the message, John 12:32; Acts 4:10-12.

The core of the Gospel comprises His death, burial, and resurrection, Romans 6:3-7, 17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. Believers are to be witnesses beginning with our Jerusalem, Acts 1:8 and Jesus Christ ordained twelve to be with Him and go forth and preach. (Mark 3:14)

The Gospel has power unto salvation, Romans 1:16 and the driving force of the gospel is love, John 3:16; Romans 5:8. We need to preach because of God's wrath on the unbelievers, 2 Corinthians 5:9-11.

#### WHAT SHOULD WE SEE IN THE DISCIPLES AS THEY ARE TAUGHT?

- 1) Becoming like Christ, Luke 6:40
- 2) Imitating Him, 1 Corinthians 11:1
- 3) Denying self, Luke 9:23-24

- 4) And deciding to serve the Lord, John 13:14-17; Mark 10:42-45
- 5) Knowing Christ and following Him, Mark 3:14; Phil 3:10; 1 Corinthians 1:9

If our goal in this great command is not to make disciples, then we have failed the mission.

### **WHY IS THE GREAT COMMISSION NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY?**

- 1) Ignorance
- 2) Egocentric and lovers of themselves
- 3) Worldly pleasure
- 4) No passion for God's will to be done
- 5) Disobedience to God and His commands
- 6) Emphasis shifted to prosperity than souls getting saved.
- 7) Compromising the Word to suit the world standards.
- 8) Failure to read the times- last day's signs and Christ's return.
- 9) Taking the gospel and salvation lightly.
- 10) No love for the lost.
- 11) Having itching ears.

As God's sent ones, let us separate ourselves from the unclean, and be strong in the Lord, an example to believers, doers of the Word, apt to teach, faithful servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, and mindful of prophecies.

### **One man said, – Words are not enough. Live it loud. – How?**

- 1) By love burning in our hearts.
- 2) Waking up our neighbors with the Gospel.
- 3) Getting the Word of God out.

What about the other saying, – To live is to give? Examples of this statement will be like this: If you want love, give it first selflessly. And if you want to grow spiritually start first to reach out to others with the Gospel.

## LESSON 4



### SOULS AND CULTURES

What is the commission of the Church? Is it to blend in with another culture? No. Is it to be like the community and culture they are in? Are we to adapt so we could suit the culture we are found in? Or change Christian doctrine or even dilute the Word? No. Or is the Church to impact the surrounding and culture with the Gospel? Yes.

Someone gives the definition of culture as follows: “Culture is the secondary environment that man builds upon the creation, comprising language, habits, ideas, beliefs, customs, social organization, inherited artifacts, technical processes, and inherited.” Merriam- Webster Online Search gives the following as definition of culture: “The integrated pattern of human knowledge, belief, and behavior that depends upon the capacity for learning and transmitting knowledge to succeeding generations; the customary beliefs, social forms, and material traits of a racial, religious, or social group; the set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterize an institution or organization; the set values, conventions, or social practices associated with a particular field, activity, or societal characteristic.”

Believers are not to transform culture, but to counter-culture with Christian principles. Christianity deals with the heart of man. The heart must change by embracing Christ as the Savior and Lord. Culture only changes by first transforming the lives of its people. We must know that as much as God talks about redeeming His people, He also covers issues of culture. Our call is to make

an eternal impartation of Christ and His way on the souls of people. Christ is the King of kings. Ephesians 1:20-22; Colossians 1:16;

Christ came to put new wine in the new wineskin, and not the old wineskin. Matthew 9:16-17. The Church has a calling from God and a key role to play as God's children. This is because the culture has no eternal values. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Luke 3:12-14; Matthew 5:13-14; Revelation 21:24-27; Isaiah 60:10-21

### **How is the relationship between the Believers and the world to be according to the Bible?**

1 John 2:15-17; John 15:18-19; John 17:11; John 17:14-18

The believers are the salt and the light of the earth. Matthew 5:13-16

### **SALT WORKS AS WHAT?**

- 1) Condiment, to give flavor- Job 6:6
- 2) Preservative for purification- Mark 9:49
- 3) Medicine- Ezekiel 16:6
- 4) Sealing covenants- Numbers 18:19
- 5) A symbol of wisdom and wholesome speech- Colossians 4:6
- 6) Sterilizing enemy's fields- Judges 9:45

### **LIGHT DOES WHAT?**

- 1) Make darkness flee without resistance.
- 2) No sin is concealed but is exposed and challenged to be out.
- 3) Souls are faithful and truthful.
- 4) There is order and no confusion and other vices as in darkness.
- 5) Clear visibility and knowledge of what God has and is saying.

We are called to change society. And culture can be changed by teaching the Biblical truth. Making souls converted and be disciplined to serve Christ all the days of their lives.

## **WHY ARE SOULS IMPORTANT?**

- 1) Because souls can be lost- Mark 8:36
- 2) Souls can be saved- Hebrews 10:39; James 1:21; 1 Peter 1:9
- 3) Souls at death without Christ go to hell- Isaiah 14:9; Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 20:11-15
- 4) Souls at death righteous and believers in Christ go to heaven- 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 6:9-11; Hebrews 12:22-23; Phil 1:21-24

## **HOW MUCH WORTH ARE SOULS?**

Let us look at Scriptures to answer this question.

- Luke 15:4;
- Luke 12:6;
- Luke 15:7, 10;
- Matthew 9:10-11;
- Matthew 10:29-31;
- Matthew 18:11;
- No man can kill the soul- Mark 10:28

## **WITHOUT CHRIST WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SOUL?**

The best authority on this is the Bible and its answers to the question are that the soul is...

- 1) Empty- Isaiah 29:8
- 2) Sorrowful- Jeremiah 31:25; Matthew 26:28
- 3) Anguish- Gen 42:21
- 4) Discouraged- Numbers 21:4
- 5) Full of troubles- Psalm 88:3
- 6) Mourn- Job 14:22
- 7) Bitter- 1 Sam 1:10; Job 7:11
- 8) Grieved- Judge 10:16; 1 Sam 30:6
- 9) Pity- Ezekiel 24:21
- 10) Filled with scorning- Psalm 123:4
- 11) Weary- Psalm 88:3

## **AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE SOUL HAS CHRIST?**

- 1) Refreshed- Psalm 23:13
- 2) Find rest- Jeremiah 6:16
- 3) Blessed- Psalm 103:1, 2, 22; 104:1, 35
- 4) Waits- Psalm 33:20; 62:1
- 5) Lifted up- Psalm 25:1; 86:4
- 6) Joyful- Psalm 35:9
- 7) Trusts- Psalm 57:1
- 8) Follows hard- Psalm 63:8
- 9) Strengthened- Psalm 138:3
- 10) Quieted- Psalm 131:2
- 11) Watered- Jeremiah 31:12

God's desire is that both the soul and the body are healthy- 3 John 2; 1 Peter 2:24. That is why the believers cannot just watch and do nothing especially with the commission we have from our Master the Lord Jesus Christ. Two examples given by our Lord are very vivid in this matter.

Luke 15:3-7 Parable of a lost sheep

Luke 15:8-10 Parable of the lost coin.

We should seek for the lost until they are found and brought back to the Kingdom of God. We should not ignore what is happening with the souls around us. We must strive to shape the culture and create a godly culture by having souls saved. Finger-pointing and condemning the lost is not what Christ gave us as a mandate. But to see that the redemption of Christ reaches them, and it is embraced. We should be soul-conscious. The souls we hang out with are our neighbors and are they saved? He that wins souls is wise. Proverbs 11:30;  
Mark 8:36-37

## LESSON 5



### **A PERSONAL INSTRUCTION AND CALLING— MY JERUSALEM**

Every born-again Christian is called by Christ to spread the Gospel. This call is not for pastors or missionaries and evangelists only. It is a personal call to all the saved children of God. All believers are priests-1 Peter 2:9

And all believers are a living sacrifice and are asked to present their bodies as such according to Romans 12:1. This sacrifice is to be holy and acceptable while being considered as the reasonable service of the believer.

**As followers and disciples of Christ**, we need to respond to and obey Christ. We do this by:

- 1) Being witnesses- Acts 1:8
- 2) Spreading the Gospel beginning with our Jerusalem- Luke 24:46-48
- 3) And to all people- Mark 16:15-16

#### **WHAT IS MY JERUSALEM?**

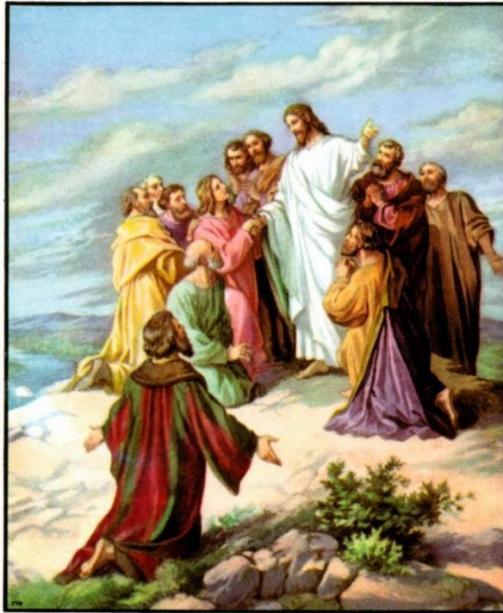
This is what comprises the area where we live and our daily contacts. We need to begin where we are reaching people with the Gospel of Peace. We are to be witnesses to those who we interact with. YES, the gospel is to be started from our Jerusalem, our sphere of influence and association. Let us look at the following Scriptures: Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:45- 48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8. In Mark 16:15 we read “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” This implication is that

everyone who is a believer must go out and minister to every individual, not just pastors, evangelists, and teachers.

Our Jerusalem includes our home, our community, our church, and the realm in which we operate on a daily basis. From here we are taught, trained, and mentored and then sent or go out to minister to others. Witness to those in our homes, to those down the street, and to those in other cities and countries. We all, believers, have a testimony to share about Christ's impact on our lives.

As a child of God, what are you doing with the command of the Great Commission from our Lord Jesus Christ? Are you obedient, slacking, disobedient or just inactive? God wants us to be obedient to this call. Think of your loved family members who are not without Christ and heading to eternal destruction if they die without Christ. God is counting on you to share Christ and His love for them.

## LESSON 6



### JESUS` AUTHORITY

Matthew 28:18 Jesus starts by talking about His authority just before commissioning the disciples. In His divinity, as the only begotten Son of God, Jesus had authority and power over all. He was equal with the Father and is still. Jesus on the earth had two natures both as God and Man.

#### **Let us look at Christ being fully God.**

- 1) The Son of the Living God- Matthew 16:16; John 10:36; Matthew 3:17; 17:5
- 2) He existed as God from all eternity- Phil 2; 3; John 1:1-2; Hebrews 1:8
- 3) Creation was by Him- John 1:3; Colossians 1:16
- 4) The fullness of God dwells in Him- Colossians 1:19; 2:9
- 5) Image of the Invisible God- Colossians 1:15
- 6) By Him, all things consist- Colossians 1:17
- 7) Jesus was worshiped- Matthew 2:2, 11; 14:33
- 8) He is called God- John 20:28; Hebrews 1:8
- 9) He was and is sinless- 1 Peter 2:22
- 10) He is all-knowing- John 21:17

### **Let us look at Jesus as fully man.**

- 1) Jesus having the body of flesh and bones- Luke 24:39
- 2) He was tempted- Matthew 4:1
- 3) He grew in wisdom- Luke 2:52
- 4) He was called man- Mark 15:39; John 19:5
- 5) He worshiped and prayed to the Father- John 17
- 6) He even died- Romans 5:8; Matthew 28:50

Jesus had authority since time immemorial and still has authority to eternity. Even in His humanity, Jesus displays authority unequalled.

### **WHAT AUTHORITY DOES JESUS HAVE?**

- 1) He is the life giver and life eternal, John 10:27-28
- 2) He forgives sins and author of eternal salvation, Luke 5:20; 7:48
- 3) He is the mediator and advocate between man and God, Hebrews 8:6;  
1 Timothy 2:5
- 4) He sends the Holy Spirit, John 15:26
- 5) Jesus has the authority to reveal the Father. Luke 10:22
- 6) Baptizer in the Spirit, John 1:33
- 7) One must confess Him to be saved, 1 John 4:15
- 8) He conquered death and has the keys of hell/death Romans 1:4;  
Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:1
- 9) Given authority by the Father, Acts 2:32, 36; Phil 2:8-9; John 17:1-5
- 10) Author and finisher of the Christian faith, Hebrews 12:2
- 11) He is the Lord of both dead and living, Romans 14:9
- 12) He sits at the right hand of the Father. Hebrews 8:1

### **Christ got the keys of authority from the dead, Revelation 1:17-18**

God exalted Him high above all things and has given Him Name above all names. And at His Name every name must bow In Heaven, In earth, Under the earth, and every tongue confess His Lordship to the glory of God the Father. Jesus authority is the Great Commission main foundation. He is sending His

disciples to go in His authority, giving them the power of attorney.

## LESSON 7



**GO!**

When Jesus re-affirmed to His disciples that He had all authority, He then commanded them to “GO” and make disciples. Matthew 28:19

### **WHO SHOULD GO?**

All believing Christians and The Local Church. Believers are sent as well in this portion of Scripture to go and minister the gospel to the lost. All believers are to participate in the command to “GO” not only preachers.

The Bible has examples of Christ and His sending of followers. Luke 9:1-2, 6; Matthew 10:5-8. The first mission was to Jews then later the commission to all the world. Mark 16:15; Romans 10:14-15. In the previous chapter, I said Christ gave the disciples the “power of attorney.” What is the power of attorney? The power of attorney means “the legal and written authority to transact business for another. The agent can act with all authority within the bounds of the legal authorization as much as the one who gave him or her this authority.” All believers are Christ's sent agents carrying the power of attorney to propagate the Gospel. We are going out in His authority and no power of the enemy shall prevail because Christ conquered.

### **WHY ARE ALL BELIEVERS SENT?**

- 1) Because God's plan is that all be saved- 1 Timothy 2:4
- 2) And they become discipled and grow in the Lord- Colossians 1:28
- 3) And develop them as ministers and servants of the Lord- 1 Peter 4:10 God desires that all believers are – FAT – followers of His Son.

## **Why FAT?**

**F-** is for Faithful, Christians to be faithful to God and obedient to His will and command.

**A-** is for Available, ready, and willing to do His will always without complaints.

**T-** is for teach-ability, all to be humble, receptive to His will, teachings, and commands.

**Where-ever we go we are to carry the Gospel.** And we can do this by:

- 1) The way we live, our lifestyle, Matthew 5:13-16
- 2) Sharing Jesus how He saved us and how He can save them too. And this by talking to them.

## **We must talk about it. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

Remember, our authority is from Jesus Christ. Even, Christ had authority from the Father when He came to die for the world. He relied upon the Father to carry and accomplish the redemption work. He was obedient to the Father. Because Christ was obedient we need to do the same. Jesus is our example to follow.

Some Scriptures to look at as something we can bank on as we contemplate to – GO –. Mark 16:15-20; Matthew 10:1; Matthew 10:5-8; Luke 9:1-2, 6; Luke 10:1-9; Luke 10:16-20;

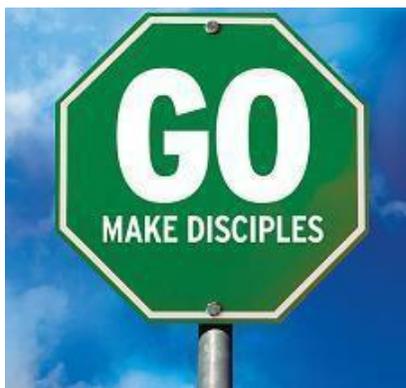
As we go we should bear in mind that the call is to make disciples. All believers must be obedient to the Lord's command. Matthew 7:21, 24, 26

Evangelist Charles F. Parham, in his address at Wichita, Kansas, November 31, 1931, Page 8, on his theme The Everlasting Gospel he says, “Never, as ministers and workers, put your faith in men; put it in God. The apostles went out without script or purse, or any financial backing; they trusted in the all-sufficiency of God, who never failed; and they carried the

Gospel to the ends of the earth. Shame on you of the twentieth century – you, who are afraid to do this! I dare you preachers to try it! Most of you are miserable cowards, afraid to step out on God's promises, afraid to trust Him; and that is why your works amount to so little.”

Dr. Harold Bollinger, GCBC Board Member/Instructor, in his book *the Revelation Vision Chapter 9 Page 30-31* says, “These people were so hardhearted that even plagues did not drive them to God. People do not usually fall into immorality and evil suddenly – they slip into it in a little at a time until, hardly realizing what has happened, they are irrevocably mired in their wicked ways. Any person who allows sin to take root in his or her life can find himself or herself in this predicament. Temptation entertained today, becomes sin tomorrow, then a habit the next day, then death and separation from God forever (see James 1:15). To think you could never become this evil is the first step toward a hard heart. Acknowledge your need to confess your sin before God.

## LESSON 8



### MAKE DISCIPLES

**The Great Commission's emphasis is to make disciples and not converts.**

#### WHO IS A DISCIPLE?

A disciple is a learner, follower, an imitator of Christ. One who is given himself or herself to learning the Biblical truth and develop their faith in Jesus Christ. This is one who has submitted his or her life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, not just hearing but becoming a doer of the Word of God. Jam 1:22

Christ sends all believers to make disciples who shall become like Him. Luke 6:40; Matthew 4:18-20; Matthew 11:28-30

For one to be a disciple he or she must be born again first. One should give his or her life to Christ and invite Him into their heart. You cannot be a disciple without the “repentance and forgiveness of sins.” Luke 24:47-48; Mark 16:16

#### WHY MAKE DISCIPLES?

- 1) So that they spend eternity with Christ in heaven, and not eternal damnation.
- 2) Christ came to bring freedom and victory over sin and death on our behalf.
- 3) Because as believers, we are to reproduce ourselves.
- 4) So they could follow Christ for a lifetime.
- 5) Build a godly character in them.

- 6) Disciples could learn of and abide in Christ.
- 7) Their souls to rest in Christ.
- 8) Grow them spiritually.
- 9) And make them become effective Christians for the kingdom of God.

## **HOW CAN WE MAKE DISCIPLES?**

- 1) The disciple maker must be a disciple of Christ first. How can you teach or lead someone when you yourself are not even the follower of what you are teaching? The blind cannot lead the other blind. Otherwise, you find yourself not teaching right or speak heresy.
- 2) Make it a one to one approach so effective discipling. Or even forming a small group so you can make follow up on your students.
- 3) You cannot be highly effective without having a home church. Some think by working as lone-rangers they can be effective in their discipling. That makes the work hard to do. Therefore, a church is needed for continued discipleship and accountability. We are a family and body of Christ.
- 4) Start with the foundational doctrine to establish them in the Lord and their Christian spirituality. Then build on the laid work.
- 5) The focus is for them to come to Christ, not to man. Christ as the core, learning of Him, off-loading their burdens on Him and in exchange receive His yoke which is easy and His burden which is light.
- 6) Create an atmosphere where they can start participating in the things of God slowly with a watchful which grows them and not condemning or accusing them.
- 7) You should know that discipling is not a onetime event, but a lifestyle as followers of Christ. Do not do it once or twice but make it an everyday work. Remember, this is not to be a hobby or part-time work. It is God's mandate to His children.
- 8) Baptize and teach them.

## **WHEN DISCIPLING, WHAT SHOULD YOU AIM TO SEE IN THEM?**

- 1) Transformation into the likeness of Christ.
- 2) Submitting totally to Christ's leadership and authority.
- 3) That they develop an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

- 4) They choose to turn away from the old self and follow Christ in their new life.
- 5) Willingness to continue daily following Christ. John 10:26-28; Matthew 26:23
- 6) That they take up their cross daily. Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23; Romans 6:11
- 7) Put God first in their lives. Luke 14:26; Matthew 22:37
- 8) Walking in Christ's righteousness and newness of life. 1 John 3:7; John 15:10-15; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Gal 5:16-26; Ephesians 4:1-24; Romans 6.
- 9) Display the fruit of the Spirit, Gal 5:21-22; John 13:34; 15:11-13
- 10) Build godly conduct and life. 1 John 2:6; 4:17
- 11) Enduring temptations. Hebrews 2:18; 4:14-16; Jam 1:2, 12
- 12) Walking in the light. 1 John 1:7
- 13) Doing ministry. John 14:12; Mark 16:17-18; Matthew 17:20
- 14) Enduring persecutions. Matthew 10:25; John 15:18-20; Mark 10:30
- 15) Set apart from the world. John 17:14-16; Romans 12:1; James 4:4; 1 John 2:5
- 16) Serving others. 1 Peter 2:21-23; 3:18-4:1; Phil 3:10
- 17) Unity with God. John 17:11, 21-23
- 18) Manifesting the fullness of God. John 3:34; Ephesians 3:19
- 19) Loving the brethren. John 13:34-35
- 20) And bearing fruit. John 15:8
- 21) Honoring the Living God with their substance, such as their money. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2
- 22) Having a strong bond and fellowship with fellow believers. 1 John 1:3
- 23) Developing a prayer life and having a daily devotional time. Psalm 27:4; Mark 1:35; Luke 11:1-4
- 24) Becoming "FAT" disciples. Faithful, available, and teachable. John 8:31; 2 Timothy 2:15; Colossians 3:16
- 25) Become soul winners with a heart for witnessing. 1 Thessalonians 2:4; Matthew 28:18-20
- 26) Membership of a Bible-believing church where they attend regularly.

Hebrews 10:15; 1 Thessalonians 12:12-27; Acts 16:5; Psalm 122:1

## **WHY DO BELIEVERS FAIL TO DISCIPLE?**

- 1) Unbelief- Luke 9:39-41
- 2) Ignorance (commission misunderstood or not even known)
- 3) Disobedience
- 4) Immaturity
- 5) Lust of the flesh, worldly.
- 6) Fear.
- 7) Backsliding.

**Our priority must be the great commission with the focus on making disciples.**

Evangelist Charles F. Parham again in his book *The Signs of His Coming* Chapter VIII Page 37-38, says “If we are going to do anything for God, let us do it at once, before the night cometh, when no man can work. While many are gazing into the clouds for His coming, they neglect to hear in tones of thunder this command; 'Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature' (Mark 16:15). We venture this assertion: That Christ will not come until this gospel shall be witnessed to in all nations.”

Parham has shown here that we as disciples are like a city set on a hill that cannot be hidden in the darkness but shines as a light into the world. Go into all the world and preach.

## **WHAT IS THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP?**

Let us look at two examples in the following text. Luke 9:57-62

V57 – The man here never counted the cost so well for his excitement was so much emotional.

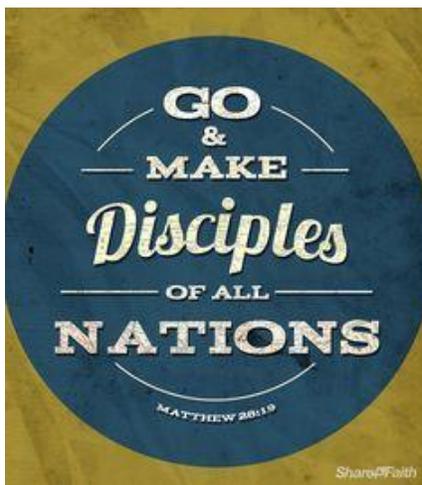
V59 – This other man's concern of his home became one to become a barrier.

V60 – In this verse, Christ is setting priorities so well such that one needs to know God and His will is to take preeminence in all things His children do. By Him mentioning that we need to be “fit for the kingdom” seals

everything about choosing His will and precepts above all things.

“Putting a hand to the plow” is talking about doing business, and that must be His, the kingdom ministry. And “Looking back” leads to nothing but a shoddy work which is short of concentration. The conclusion is that as we disciple we must know that these disciples must begin to die to self, coming out of their old ways of life and deciding to follow and live for Jesus as their Lord and Savior. A disciple determines to become like Christ. This is because discipleship is founded and centered on Christ and nothing else. Also, we should bear in mind that disciples learn by seeing their instructors doing in action and response to the Gospel in daily living.

## LESSON 9



### OF ALL NATIONS

Without Christ people are lost. While looking at our Jerusalem we should as well consider the nations for the gospel. What do we mean nations? God's people. The believers have a mandate to reach the people of the earth regardless of their color, culture, and geographical location. To preach to all nations, not just where we live.

Evangelist Charles F. Parham, in his book *The Voice Crying in The Wilderness* Chapter 1, page 12, he writes, and I quote, “Preach you must and preach you will have whether you are received properly, licensed not; God will not cast you off or fail to own your labors. If you do not obey, there is left you in this world only a path of thorns misery, woe, want and nothing that you touch shall proper and, in the world, to come, along, long night with no morning beyond.”

#### WHY ALL NATIONS?

- 1) Because all nations must serve the Lord only, Psalm 72:11; Zephaniah 3:9
- 2) God shall judge all nations, no exception to that, Isaiah 2:4
- 3) All institutions and governments are to submit to His rule and authority as the King of kings.
- 4) God desires to bless them. Psalm 72:17; 33:12
- 5) God's plan is to gather all of them. Zach 14:2; Joel 3:2; Isaiah 66:18-19;

Jeremiah 3:2

- 6) God desires all nations taught, Matthew 28:19
- 7) That the nations should have the desire of God, Haggai 2:7
- 8) Christ died for all people, not just a few. John 3:16
- 9) Everyone is a sinner, no one is righteous, Romans 3:10
- 10) All people were created to serve God and not the devil, Deuteronomy 10:13; Matthew 6:24
- 11) All nations shall come and worship Revelation 15:4; Isaiah 66:19-21
- 12) God desires to heal all nations, 2 Chronicles 7:14
- 13) All nations must come under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, Philippians 2:9-11 We are the salt of the earth, therefore, it is only us who can bring change to the nations with the message of Christ crucified and now exalted above all.

**When we evangelize the nations, meaning people, and are saved they become**

- 1) Transformed into the likeness of Christ.
- 2) Christian communities.
- 3) The fear of God which ushers in peace and love for all God's creation.
- 4) Righteousness rules.
- 5) The devil is given no room.
- 6) The diabolical assignments of the devil are curtailed.
- 7) Godly prosperity becomes imminent.
- 8) God's hedge of protection over them.
- 9) Every thought and plan is brought to the authority of Jesus Christ.
- 10) Ready to punish all disobedience.
- 11) Brotherly love becomes the benchmark of every activity.
- 12) Nations are a house of prayer, seeking and humbling themselves before God.
- 13) They are blessed, and all disasters are seen far from their territories.  
From the above, we can say that we should be global-minded for we are the light of the world. Our focus must be to influence the world with the

message of the Bible so that they become a godly culture that gives all the glory to the Almighty God.

The great Evangelist Billy Graham in his Decision Magazine MY ANSWERS, the column for questions a long time ago, was asked whether God still judges nations for their sins like He did in Old Testament times. And this was his answer: “Yes, God still judges nations for their sins – just as He still judges individuals. The Bible is clear: “You may be sure that your sin will find you out.” Numbers 32: 23, God has not changed over the centuries; He is holy and pure, and whenever we scorn Him, we run the risk of incurring His judgment. Sin is an offense to Him- and the reason is that it is a deliberate denial of God and His will for our lives. When we sin, we deliberately turn our backs on God and say our way is better than His. But we are wrong- and eventually, we will pay the price.

The same is true of a nation that rejects God. When ancient Israel turned against God, the prophets warned that God's judgment would eventually come upon them – and it did. But God also warned that the surrounding nations would be judged too because they had no regard for God- and they were. Sometimes it happens in one great catastrophe; sometimes it happens in a series of smaller disasters and defeats. But it happens. That is why God desires that nations must come to Him. For it is only righteousness that exalts a nation. Pro 14:34. And He desires that all nations be blessed, Gen 18:18; 27:18; 26:4. When we go we are to preach, teach, and bring healing in the Name of the Lord. Luke 4:18; 1 Corinthians 4:20; Matthew 9:35

## LESSON 10



### BAPTIZE THEM

Meaning of Baptism: In Greek it means “Baptizo” from Bapto, which means, to bring into; immerse; submerge; sink; plunge; to dip under and wholly. Colossians 2; 12; Romans 6:3-7; Matthew 28:19

Baptism is an instruction of Jesus Christ. He is saying that when souls are saved they should be baptized because they have believed on Him. Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:37-39

### SOME EXAMPLES OF BAPTISM IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- 1) John the Baptist-Matthew 3:1-6 Baptism for repentance
- 2) Jesus was baptized- Matthew 3:13-17
- 3) The Ethiopian Eunuch- Acts 2:37-41
- 4) Paul was baptized- Acts 9:17-19
- 5) Cornelius household- Acts 10:44-48
- 6) Lydia Acts 16:11-15

Jesus does not baptize with water nor will He ever do it. Why? He baptizes with the Holy Spirit and fire, and not water. Matthew 3:11

### WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Baptism is ONLY for the saved Christians. It comes after one is saved,

after repentance and faith in Christ. Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:28, 41; Acts 8:12-13, 37; Acts 16; 14-15, 31- 33; Acts 18; 8; Acts 19:1-7

When we look at the trend of baptism we notice that repentance was required before baptism. And one being baptized must understand the importance of baptism. But we also see that at other occasions, believers were water baptized after receiving the Holy Spirit. But the main emphasis is that they first repented of all their sins. Acts 9:17-18; Acts 10:44-48

### **WHAT ARE THE WRONG BAPTISMS?**

- 1) Infant baptism is wrong because it is not taught in the Scriptures and these infants have not received Christ yet as Lord and Savior which is a prerequisite to baptism.
- 2) Baptism of the dead is very wrong. Not biblical in any way. No scripture ever mentions about this kind of baptism to be of God. A person needs to make things right with God while he or she is alive. This is because salvation is not by proxy but an individual's matter. Luke 13:1-5; John 3:16-20; Acts 3:19
- 3) Regeneration by baptism is wrong. This is because baptism has no power to cleanse or forgive sin. The belief that man should be baptized to be saved is wrong. Only Jesus forgives sin. Baptism is not to remit sin. Repentance first then baptism. Period! Acts 2:38

**Christ forgave sin without baptism.** Matthew 9:1-7; John 4:49-53; Luke 18:9-14

### **Baptism does not put away the filth of the flesh.**

**1 Peter 3:21 And cleansing of sin and the filth of the flesh is done by**

- God, Psalm 51:1-13
- Jesus Christ, Matthew 1:21
- Faith in the Blood of Christ, Romans 3:24-25, 1 Peter 1:18-23
- Confession of sins 1 John 1:9; Acts 2:38
- The Word of God, 1 Peter 1:23; John 3:5

### **WHY WAS JESUS BAPTIZED?**

The Son was baptized when He had no sin to repent of. He was sinless, but He

submitted to baptism by John the Baptist. But why?

- 1) He was fulfilling righteousness, Matthew 3:15
- 2) He was to be manifested to Israel, John 1:31
- 3) He had to do it as an act of obedience.

### **WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF WATER BAPTISM?**

- 1) We should know that it is a public declaration of our faith and obedience to Christ. 1 John 2:4; Matthew 3:15
- 2) We are buried with Him by immersion into death, Romans 6:4
- 3) As Christ was raised up from the dead so we also should walk in the newness of life as we come out of the water. Rom 6:4-5
- 4) It is the Lord's command. Matthew 28:19
- 5) It is to testify of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The believer identifies himself or herself with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, he or she decides to live a new kind of life. We are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:11
- 6) When dipped into water, that talks about death- Romans 6:4, 11
- 7) When under the water it talks of burial, being buried in the grave- Romans 6:4
- 8) Coming out of water talks of resurrection to walk in a newness of life- Romans 6:4-8

### **HOW SHOULD BAPTISM BE CONDUCTED?**

By immersion in water, and not by sprinkling or pouring of water on the person. The latter two show us that no burial is possible. Because baptism speaks of being buried with Christ and then being risen with Him. Water is just sprinkled, and the person is not dipped or submerged into water. Matthew 3:6, 11; Mark 1:5, 8, 9; John 1:26, 31, 33; Acts 8:38-39

John the Baptist baptized in the Jordan River, not by sprinkling but by immersion. Our very own Master, Jesus Christ, was immersed in the water by John. Matthew 3:16 Philip, as well, baptized the Eunuch from Ethiopia into water, immersion. Acts 8:36-39

Therefore, baptism by immersion depicts death to the old way of life and

rising to new life in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Sprinkling and pouring of water miss the real essence of Christian baptism.