

SONRISE BAPTIST CHURCH
Purpose • Mission • Vision Series

Our Mission: Go, Make, Baptize, Teach

Matthew 28:18–20

Key Thoughts

1. **Mission flows from purpose.** Because we exist to love God and love people (our Purpose), the Great Commission is the “What”—the action Jesus gives us to fulfill that purpose.
2. **Jesus’ authority is the foundation.** The Commission rests on “all authority in heaven and on earth” (Matt 28:18). We do not go in our own power or on our own terms—we go under His delegated authority and by the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).
3. **Go is a lifestyle, not an event.** “Go” is better translated “as you are going.” Evangelism and witness are woven into the fabric of daily life—at work, in the neighborhood, at school—not confined to a scheduled program.
4. **Disciples are evidenced by life change.** Making disciples means leading people to a faith that produces visible fruit—the fruit of the Spirit replacing the fruit of the flesh (Gal 5:19–23). A prayer prayed without ongoing transformation is not discipleship.
5. **The Commission belongs to every believer.** Go, Make, Baptize, and Teach is not reserved for paid professionals or church leaders. Every follower of Christ—young or old, new or mature—is called and empowered to make disciples who make disciples.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 28:18. Why does Jesus begin the Commission by declaring His authority? How does knowing you operate under His authority—not your own—change the way you approach sharing your faith?
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2. The sermon explained that “Go” means “as you are going”—a lifestyle, not a scheduled event. Where in your weekly routine do you have natural contact with people who do not know Christ? What keeps you from being intentional in those moments?
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3. In Galatians 5:19–23, Paul contrasts the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit. When you look at your own life over the past year, where do you see evidence of the Spirit’s fruit growing? Where is the flesh still pulling?
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4. The sermon used the Alice Cooper story to illustrate dramatic life change. Why is it important that we define a disciple not merely by a prayer prayed but by ongoing, visible transformation? How does that challenge comfortable Christianity?
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5. Baptism is described as a public confession and association with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Why do you think Jesus included baptism in the Commission? What role does public identification with Christ play in a believer's growth?
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6. Jesus said to teach them to "observe all things I have commanded you." How is teaching to obey different from simply transferring information? What does it look like practically for you to disciple someone toward obedience—not just knowledge?
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Applications

1. **Pray your three by name.** Write down three people in your daily orbit who, as far as you know, do not know Christ. Commit to praying for each of them by name every day this week. Before next Sunday, initiate one spiritual conversation with one of them.
2. **Audit your discipleship chain.** Ask yourself honestly: Am I being discipled by someone? Am I actively discipling someone else? If the answer to either is no, open a conversation with God—and then with a trusted believer—about starting this week.
3. **Live the "As You Are Going" lifestyle.** Choose one everyday environment—your workplace, gym, coffee shop, or neighborhood—and decide to be an intentional witness there this week. No script needed; simply be willing to share what Christ has done in your life.

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for sending Your Son with a mission to seek and save the lost—and for entrusting that same mission to us. Forgive us for treating the Great Commission as someone else's job, for treating discipleship as a box to check, and for living as though our daily lives have nothing to do with Your kingdom. Give us eyes to see the people You have placed in our path. Give us courage to open our mouths. Fill us with Your Spirit so that the fruit of Christ's life is unmistakable in ours. Raise up in this church a generation of disciples who make disciples—who Go, Make, Baptize, and Teach—until You return. In the name of Jesus, who holds all authority in heaven and on earth, amen.