



Series: “Following The Way”

Week 6 Study Guide

Message: “**Ordinary People, Extraordinary Mission.**”

(Disciples make Disciples)

SCRIPTURE

Main Text:	Cross References:
<i>Matthew 28:18–20</i>	<i>Matthew 4:19</i> <i>Philippians 2:9–11</i> <i>Mark 3:14</i> <i>Acts 1:8</i>

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

(This section focuses on understanding what the text means — before jumping to what it means for us.)

Matthew 28:18

Main Idea: Jesus establishes His authority before giving the mission.

Commentary:

Before Jesus tells His disciples what to do, He reminds them who He is. This moment comes after the resurrection — meaning Jesus stands before them as the victorious King who has conquered sin and death. “All authority in heaven and on earth” is the language of divine rule. Jesus of Nazareth, fully God and fully man, has been exalted to his rightful place as Lord of all! This mission Jesus gives to His Church doesn’t begin with human passion or strategy, but with his authority. What follows is not a suggestion or inspirational idea — it’s a command flowing from His reign.

Discussion Question:

1. Why is it important that Jesus begins with authority before assignment?
2. How does knowing Jesus is reigning King change how we hear His command?

Takeaway:

*The mission of the Church flows from who Jesus is — not who we are. (Cross Reference: **Philippians 2:9–11**)*

Read Matthew 28:19a

Main Idea: Jesus sends His disciples outward with purpose.

Commentary:

When Jesus says “**Go**,” He is not telling His disciples to immediately relocate or add something new to their schedules. The original language implies “**as you are going**.” In other words, discipleship happens along the way — in the flow of everyday life. Jesus reframes ordinary spaces as sacred spaces. Where His followers live, work, and play becomes the context for His mission.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does understanding “go” as “as you are going” reshape your understanding of missions and discipleship?

Takeaway:

Following Jesus means living sent — right where you are.

Read Matthew 28:19b

Main Idea: Disciples lead people to faith in Jesus.

Commentary:

Jesus connects disciple-making with baptism. Baptism represents new faith, new identity, new allegiance, and assurance of new life. In the New Testament, baptism often followed belief immediately. Jesus isn’t asking His followers to simply explain ideas — He’s inviting them to call people into trust, surrender, and belonging. Discipleship begins with sharing the Good News about Jesus and giving an invitation to trust Him.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is baptism central to Jesus’ vision of disciple-making?
2. What’s the difference between explaining faith and inviting someone into it?

Takeaway:

Disciples invite people to trust Jesus — not just agree with Him.

Read Matthew 28:20a

Main Idea: Discipleship goes beyond belief into obedience.

Commentary:

Jesus doesn't say "make converts" or "fill seats." He says "make disciples." In Jesus' time, a disciple was an apprentice — someone committed to learning not just what the rabbi taught, but how the rabbi lived. Discipleship is about transformation, not just knowledge. Teaching obedience means walking with people as they learn how to live out Jesus' way in real life.

Discussion Questions:

1. How is discipleship different from simply learning information?
2. Why do you think obedience is central to following Jesus?

Takeaway:

Discipleship is learning how to live aligned with Jesus — together.

Read Mark 3:14

Main Idea: Discipleship begins with proximity before mission.

Commentary:

Jesus called the twelve "to be with Him" before He sent them out. Transformation happened through relationship — shared meals, shared moments, shared life. Discipleship was never designed as a program or classroom experience. It grows through proximity, consistency, and presence. The same is true today.

Discussion Questions:

1. What stands out to you about Jesus prioritizing "being with Him"?
2. How does proximity shape spiritual growth?

Takeaway:

Discipleship starts with relationship, not curriculum.

Read Acts 1:8

Main Idea: Jesus empowers ordinary people through the Holy Spirit.

Commentary:

Jesus doesn't send His followers out alone or under their own strength. He promises power through the Holy Spirit. This power isn't for performance — it's for witness. God has always used ordinary people, filled with His Spirit, to accomplish supernatural purposes.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do we often underestimate the role of the Holy Spirit in mission?
2. What fears does Jesus' promise of power speak to?

Takeaway:

God does supernatural things through ordinary people who rely on His Spirit.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Which fears about discipleship relationship-building most resonate with you: "I'm not ready," "I'm not enough," or "I don't have time"?
2. Where do you tend to protect your image instead of opening your life?
3. Who might God be inviting you to walk with — not perfectly, but honestly?
4. What ordinary spaces in your life could become places of discipleship?

LIVING IT OUT

1. Pray for awareness. Ask God to open your eyes to the people already in your life.

2. Start small. Initiate a simple invitation — coffee, a conversation, a meal in your home, and be real about what you're asking! (*Think: "I'm being more intentional about following Jesus, want to do that with me?"*)

3. Open your life. Invite someone into your everyday rhythms rather than creating something new.

(*Think: "I'm going to church, come with me!" "I'd love to share what I'm reading in the Bible with you." "Let's pray together!" "I heard a really good sermon, want to listen and talk about it with me?"*)

4. Stay faithful. Relationship building (*discipleship*) takes time. Consistency matters more than perfection.

For LifeGroups:

ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER

Share:

1. What makes discipleship feel intimidating or overwhelming right now?
2. Where have you seen God work through ordinary moments?

Pray together:

Ask the Holy Spirit to give courage, humility, and openness. Pray that your group would live sent — making disciples through everyday relationships. Thank Jesus for His authority, His presence, and His promise to be with us always.