

bec03 – **Go - Matthew 28:19**
Reach All People

We are continuing to ‘*ROUGHLY Follow*’ the Book
“*Essential Guide To Becoming a Disciple*” By Greg Ogden

We’re in Ch 3 today

but again - we’re not covering the entire Chapter
so I’d still encourage you to *read the book*

& we handed you this morning
The workbook Ch from *LAST WEEK’S Msg* (not today’s)

I’d really encourage you to go thru the Workbook Ch’s
we’re handing you - & let me know how you feel about them

Let’s Pray

Turn in Your Bibles to Mat Ch 28

Our CORE TRUTH again comes from
The Great Commission

The last Command (*the Commission*)
we received from our Lord

We’ll start at V.18 – but again our core truth today is in V.19

Matthew 28:18–19 (NLT)

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.

19 Therefore, GO and make disciples of all the nations . . .

Here’s our CORE TRUTH

Jesus says – *GO - - and make disciples of [all people]*

The Core Truth is – *GO*

On the Authority of Jesus Christ

We are Commissioned to GO

to Make Disciples of all “*People Groups*” – (Literally)

Wherever *THEY* are *AT* - &

Wherever *YOU* are *AT*

& here is the QUESTION we want to address today

What is the compelling spirit that flows through a disciple of Jesus?

The compelling spirit that flows through a disciple

Is . . . The “*GO spirit*”

The “*GO spirit*” compels us to *GO TO*

the people that need Jesus

But Pls - Don't just immediately think of
Far away – end-of-the-earth missionaries

Because then your "*Flesh spirit*" - will excuse you
From embracing – The "*GO spirit*"

Audio Adrenaline (*1 of the best band names ever*)

had a song back in the day
Called "*A.K.A. Public School*"

That drove the point home to students

that their Mission Field
is "*Also Known As*" - Your Public School

For most of us – our Mission Field
will be - *Right Where* we are AT

& the people we are called to "*GO TO*"
Will be the people who are *Right in front of us*

The "*GO spirit*" is what moves a disciple of Jesus
TOWARD those in need
of The LOVE - &
The GRACE - &
The SALVATION . . . *that Jesus freely offers them*

The “*GO spirit*” of Disciple
primarily expresses itself in 3 ways;

- 1) A Disciple *Moves Toward* those in need of the Good News
- 2) A Disciple is a *Relational Link* to the Good News
- 3) A Disciple *Demonstrates* the Good News

The “Good News” is the Gospel Msg
of WHO Jesus Christ IS - & WHY He came to Earth

& the “*GO spirit*” in a disciple
Moves Toward - &
is a *Relational Link* for - &
Demonstrates that Good News – to those who NEED JESUS

***Do you see how every disciple can be equally compelled by this
‘GO spirit’?***

EVERY disciple – GOING TO - those who need Jesus

But . . . in our church culture today
many have adopted - what Greg Ogden calls

The “*Field of Dreams*” approach
to getting the Good News to the people who need it

Do you remember the movie?

A young IOWA Farmer starts hearing a voice
coming out of his corn field . . . *“If you build it, he will come”*

& ultimately – the farmer builds something *incredible*

& not only did the baseball greats come

But people came from *far & wide*
to experience what this farmer had built

& to see the celebrities who showed up there

In some ways – hasn’t that become *OUR approach*
To getting the Good News to People?

“if we build it, they will come”

We actually KNOW – with NO DOUBT
“if we build it right, they will absolutely come”

If we build an impressive enough property

& if pay all the right people
to make it all work “all the right way”

& if we have the money to create
the most attractive environment around

We KNOW (for sure) people will come
from far & wide - to that church

But then – here’s what (too often) happens

People become an *Ambassador* – “*For Their Church*”

& they become a ‘*Relational Link*’ - “*To Their Church*”

& they ‘*Demonstrate*’ the goodness – “*Of Their Church*” to people

& we say things like

“*At our church last night, we had such an awesome this-or-that*”

“*Our church is doing this-or-that, it’s so awesome you should come*”

But - at the core of this *culturally successful approach*

Can be a really serious problem

Because we’re really becoming a grass-roots *marketing team*

“*for our church*”

& we’re trying to draw people to something

that will *Impress*, or *Entertain*, or *Inspire* them

But – Jesus didn’t say – Build something impressive enough
to Draw people TO the church

Instead – Jesus Commissioned *Each Individual Disciple*

to GO – to the People who need the gospel

& to be a RELATIONAL LINK between them & Jesus

& to DEMONSTRATE the Good News of Jesus to them

& listen, please – I know that *the motivation*
of people who Promote their church – is *good-hearted*

I know – they really want people to ultimately
come to Jesus & start following HIM

& I know it's *WAY EASIER* to invite someone to an Awesome
& Impressive church – than it is to invite them to Jesus

**But – Do you see a problem with us becoming an Ambassador for
'our church' – instead of an Ambassador for 'our Lord'?**

**What problems might come from us promoting 'our church'
instead of promoting 'our Lord'?**

When the Pastor FALLS
in some very public - & faith-shaking sin

When the sinners who attend that Awesome & Impressive church
do something to HURT or OFFEND that person

Or, when the sizzle just wears off
when the lights don't seem as bright
& the warm-fuzzies don't come as often

Then – *what does that person do?*

Often – they just try to find a MORE *Awesome & Impressive*
Church - - but, it's hard to find

& so, too often – they begin the slow-fade . . . away from Jesus

We've got to remember

our God is a *Personal, Relational, One-on-One GOD*

& so - doesn't it make sense that God would CALL US
to make disciples in the *same way*?

In a *Personal, Relational, One-on-One WAY*

Let me ask you another question:

If you are becoming a disciple, does it cause any fear or doubt in you – to accept that you, personally, have been commissioned by Jesus to GO and make disciples?

If so, why?

Turn in your Bibles to Luke Ch 24

This is the very end of Luke's gospel

which actually continues into ACTS Ch 1 – (*Luke also wrote*)

We'll start in Luke 24:36

Just prior to this - the 2 disciples were on the Rd to Emmaus -
After the Resurrection

& Suddenly Jesus was *WALKING* with them
& then he *ATE* with them

& in Luke 24:35 – these two – are telling the other Disciples
that Jesus *walked* with them, & he *ate* with them

& then we read in Luke 24:36–37 (NLT)

36 And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. “Peace be with you,” he said.

37 But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost!

Our Focus in this Text today is
Preparing to be a WITNESS

& so – we want to see very clearly
HOW Jesus prepared these disciples – to be *Witnesses*

So Jesus suddenly shows up
in the room with the Disciples

& the whole group *freaks out* – even tho
they had all CLEARLY HEARD about the Resurrection

& then in Luke 24:38 - Jesus asks - (NLT)

38 “Why are you frightened?” he asked. “Why are your hearts filled with doubt?”

I wonder if Jesus could *ask US*
these same two questions

When he's *preparing US* - to GO & Make Disciples

Let me ask you;

Honestly, would Jesus ask you these same two questions about fear and doubt, as he is preparing YOU to GO make disciples?

& it's OK if he would
Jesus had to ask his First Disciples these questions

But then – look closely at the *RESPONSE* of Jesus
knowing that his disciples were *frightened* & in *doubt*

Luke 24:39-40 (NLT)

39 Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do."

40 As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.

Look closely here:

Jesus is saying to his "*Unsure Disciples*" – GET SURE!

LOOK at Jesus closely

STUDY his life

SEE who he really IS

& *Know Him* - - *SO THAT* you can be *SURE*

& Listen Pls - Jesus will be PATIENT with you
as you become SURE of *Who He IS*

He was certainly Patient with his First Disciples

Look at Luke 24:41–43 (NLT)

41 Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder (at least they had that). Then he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he ate it as they watched.

Do you think the Lord was Hungry, *really?*

Or do you think he was

PATIENTLY CONVINCING the Disciples
of what they needed to be CONFIDENT of?

Do you see that Jesus wanted his disciples to have “Personal Interaction” with him, first?

& then – from “*Personal Interaction*” With him

Jesus then takes the Disciples – *Right To the WORD*

Luke 24:44 (NLT)

44 Then he said, “When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

Here Jesus POINTS US to both the N.T. - & the O.T.

& he says “*when I was with you, I told you*” (that’s N.T.)

That everything written about me

In the *LAW* – & the *PROPHETS* – & the *PSALMS* . . . (that’s O.T.)

ALL of IT - must be fulfilled!

& then - Luke 24:45 (NLT)

45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

This is critical – this is the Holy Spirit’s job today

The Holy Spirit changes ink & paper

Into the Living Word of God – that *SPEAKS directly TO US*

& then – Stay with me – *THIS is the POINT*

Luke 24:46–47 (NLT)

46 And he said, “Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day.

47 It was also written (here’s the point) that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: ‘There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.’

& then –the PUNCH LINE

Luke 24:48 (NLT)

48 (Jesus says) *You are witnesses of all these things.*

That's IT – Right there – *YOU are WITNESSES*
to the life-saving truth – of WHO Jesus Christ is

A WITNESS is someone who simple
& accurately tells about

What they have SEEN, & HEARD, & EXPERIENCED

For US to be a Witness – all we have to do

Is tell someone what we have SEEN & HEARD & EXPERIENCED
Jesus Do – in our OWN LIVES

**So – if you are UNSURE – of what Jesus
has DONE in your life - - *GET SURE***

**LOOK closely at *WHO Jesus IS*
HEAR his supernatural Word *speak to you*
& *KNOW Him personally - - So That you can BE SURE***

& AS you are striving to KNOW Jesus more & more

PRAY - the Holy Spirit would Open your Mind
So you would understand the "*Living Word of God*"

Then PRAY – for the POWER
of the *Infilling of the Holy Spirit*

Which is exactly how Jesus ENDS
this “*Training Session*” with his Disciples

Luke 24:49 (NLT)

49 “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”

Get to KNOW Jesus

HEAR him Speak to you in God’s Word

**Then ASK GOD To SEND the Holy Spirit
To FILL YOU with POWER from Heaven!**

THAT is how Jesus prepared his FIRST DISCIPLES - &
THAT is how Jesus will prepare YOU & ME

Remember - as we GO to Make Disciples

>> We Go with the Supernatural POWER from Heaven

>> We are Sent with the Authority of the Creator God - &

>> We Go to WATCH GOD Supernaturally Transform Lives

And . . . this text doesn't stop here in Luke Ch 24

In continues in Acts Ch 1 – So Let's Turn There

We'll pick it up in Acts 1:4-5 (NLT)

4 Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before.

5 John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

In Acts 1 – this is Luke - reminding us of the event
we just read about in Luke Ch 24

& then – (for time's sake) we'll skip down to Acts 1:8

In essence – Jesus is FINISHING HERE
the training he started in Luke Ch 24

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

This is the END
of the BEGINNING
of the *GO COMMISSION*

We are to GO – to TELL people about Jesus

People who are *Closest* to us - &
People who are *Farthest* away

As a Disciple – in order to *prepare to GO*
to TAKE the Good News to people who need Jesus

#1) LOOK at Jesus closely

STUDY his life

SEE who he really IS

& *Know Him - - SO THAT you can be SURE of Him*

#2) See & Hear & Experience Him

so that you can Be a WITNESS

& TESTIFY to his Grace & Power

#3) Pray continually that God would FILL YOU

to overflowing - with the Power of the Holy Spirit

Then . . . GO

Move Toward those in need of Jesus

Be a *Relational Link* between them and Jesus - &

Demonstrate the Love & Grace of Jesus to them

Let's Pray