



Go for God!

## **“Our Great Commission!”**

### **MATTHEW Chapter 28:16-20**

#### **(v16-17) The Great Commission starts with WORSHIP!**

- The word *worship* in Greek is *proskuneo* (pros-koo-neh'-o); it is used of an act of homage or reverence to God or to Christ, meaning to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand; to fawn or crouch to, to prostrate oneself in homage; do reverence to, adore.

- Jesus said in John 4:23-24 – *“But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”*

- The English word *worship* comes from the Old English word worþship, a word which denotes the *worthiness of the one receiving the special honor or devotion*.

- When we're in heaven, after the rapture of the church, we'll be worshipping Jesus!

- Revelation 5:11-12 - *Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!"*

- We, Christians, WORSHIP JESUS, study the WORD OF GOD, and WITNESS in the POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!

#### **(v18) The Great Commission is full of HIS AUTHORITY!**

- Listen to Barnes, the Bible Commentator, “The "Son of God," as "Creator," had an original right to all things, to control them and dispose of them. (See John 1:3; Col 1:16-17; Heb 1:8.) But the universe is put under him more particularly as Mediator, that he might redeem his people; that he might gather a church; that he might defend his chosen; that he might subdue all their enemies, and bring them off conquerors and more than conquerors, Eph 1:20-23; 1 Cor 15:25-27; John 5:22-23; Phil 2:6-11. It is in reference to THIS, doubtless, that he speaks here POWER or AUTHORITY committed to him over all things, that he might redeem, defend, and save the church purchased with his own blood. His mediatorial government extends, therefore, over the material world, over angels, over devils, over wicked men, and over his own people.”

#### **(v19) The Great Commission is “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations”**

- Porter Barrington, an evangelist and Bible teacher writes – “Soul winners are made, not born. Therefore, to be an effective witness, you must be taught, trained, and motivated by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

- Statistics tell us that 95% of all Christians have never led another person to Jesus Christ.

- Listen to Jesus - Matthew 4:18-20- *And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him.*

**- Let's GO AND WITNESS! Here's seven practical steps on witnessing:**

**#1 - Share your personal testimony of salvation!**

- Don't give your life story. It should take no more than a few minutes to tell how the Lord Jesus saved you.

**#2 - Tell them that God LOVES them!**

- **John 3:16-17** - *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

**#3 - Inform the unsaved that we are all sinners!**

- **Romans 3:23**- *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God* (They may tell you that they're a good person, but you must ask them if they are holy, for God is holy & perfect. Various sins practiced by many are listed in John 3:18-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21; Rev. 21:8). The sin that keeps people out of heaven and headed to hell is their rejection of Jesus Christ to the point of death. Remember, no sin is greater than God's forgiveness.

**#4 - Explain to them about the wages of sin & the gift of God!**

- **Romans 6:23**- *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Sin produces spiritual and physical death, whereas abundant and eternal life comes through Jesus Christ!

**#5 - Invite them to become "BORN AGAIN!" - John 3:1-8, 36.**

**#6 - Encourage them to say the sinner's prayer!**

- **Romans 10:9-10** it says - *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

**- Sample prayer of salvation (have them repeat after you):**

"Dear Jesus, please forgive me for all of my sins. I confess to you that I'm a sinner and I want you Jesus to be my Lord and Savior, please fill me with your Holy Spirit so I can be born again. Help me to follow you all the days of my life. Thank you, Father, for loving me, and thank you Jesus for saving me. In Jesus name we pray, Amen."

**#7 - Bless their new life in Christ with these scriptures!**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**- *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

**Romans 5:1-2**- *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

**Romans 8:1**- *There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

**Ephesians 2:8-10**- *For by GRACE you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

- When someone is “*born-again*” (John Ch. 3) they need to be BAPTIZED! There are two sacraments the church is commanded to practice, BAPTISM and COMMUNION.

- *BAPTISM* is a public testimony of the inner change, which has already occurred in the believer's life. *It serves as a public identification of the person with Jesus Christ, and thus also as a public testimony of the change that has occurred.* (FYI - Baptism does not save, Paul expounds on this in 1 Corinthians 1:10-18.)

**(v20) The Great Commission is to MAKE DISCIPLES through TEACHING!**

- General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, said that he was worried about the church losing the message of the true gospel. He warns the church regarding four areas of compromise:

- (1) *Christianity without Christ*
- (2) *Forgiveness without repentance*
- (3) *Salvation without regeneration*
- (4) *Heaven without Hell.*

- In verse 19, JESUS gives us the BIG VISION to spread the GOSPEL to and make DISCIPLES of ALL THE NATIONS!

- A DISCIPLE is a student, a LEARNER, or pupil. In the Bible the word is used most often to refer to a follower of Jesus.

- Over forty times in the Book of Acts we are told that the disciples taught or preached the Word of God. As Christians we're encouraged, “*as newborn babes, DESIRE the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.*” (1 Peter 2:2-3).

- In 2 Peter 3:18 we are called to “GROW in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

- In 2 Timothy 2:15 we're exhorted to “STUDY to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

- Turn to 2 Timothy 3:16 – 4:7 and understand the duty of Pastors regarding teaching the church. (2 Tim. 3:16- *Doctrine* teaches us what is right—*Reproof* teaches us what is not right—*Correction* teaches us how to get right—*Instruction in righteousness* teaches us how to stay right.)

- Pastors are called to PREACH THE WORD! To *convince*- deal with sin; *rebuke* – deal with sin and its penalty; *exhort* – encourage; *with longsuffering and teaching* – patiently instructing and educating.

- When it's all said and done and we enter heaven may we hear the glorious words of our Lord Jesus Christ, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the JOY of your lord.” (Matthew 25:21)