

Mission Impossible

Make Disciples

Matthew 28:18-20

This series brings us back to our purpose, mission, and vision as individual and corporate followers of Jesus. Last week, we talked about our ultimate purpose: to Love God & Love People. Today, we'll consider what this love for God & others leads us to do.

Mission (Missionary) – *Sent, or one who is sent.*

“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’” **John 20:21**

Main Idea: Salem Church’s Mission is to Make Disciples & Multiply Churches

“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’” **Matthew 28:18-20**

Jesus Gives Us Our Mission in Three Parts in Matthew 28:18-20

I. The Authority of Our Mission – *“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.’”* **Matthew 28:18**

“...God has made him both Lord and Christ...” **Acts 2:36b**

“...Christ is the head of the church...” **Ephesians 5:23b**

“Since Jesus Christ today has all authority, we may obey Him without fear. No matter where he leads us, no matter what circumstances we face, He is in control. By His death and resurrection, Jesus defeated all enemies and won for Himself all authority.” **Warren Wiersbe**

II. The Fulfillment of Our Mission – *“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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”* **Matthew 28:19-20a**

Our Mission is to Make Disciples:

- **Barriers to Making Disciples**
 - **Ignorance:** We don't know that this is our mission.
 - **Indifference:** We don't care that this is our mission.
 - **Division:** Arguments about secondary issues.
- **Effects of Making Disciples:**
 - **Showing Mercy (poor, widow, orphan)**
 - **Breaking Strongholds (sp. warfare, healing, deliverance)**
 - **Fighting Injustice (abortion, racism, exploitation)**
- **Focus of Making Disciples:**

- **For All Nations** (*Ta Ethnos* = all ethnicities, people groups)
- **Make Disciples** (*Mathetouso* = learners/followers of Jesus)
 - **Baptizing** – This is our public profession of Christ.
 - **Teaching** – To obey Christ's commands to us.

Illus: God's mission is not a mission of addition, but multiplication...

Year	Evangelist	Disciple-Maker
One	365	2
Three	1,095	8
Five	1,825	32
Ten	3,650	1,024
Fifteen	5,475	32,768
Twenty	7,300	1,048,576
Thirty	10,950	1,073,741,824

“And he said to them...that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.” **Luke 24:46-48**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **Acts 1:8**

III. The Promise of Our Mission – *“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”* **Matthew 28:20b**

“And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.” **Acts 4:33**

My city is not responsible to give me the life I want; I am called to give my city the life that I enjoy in Christ as I make disciples here.

How do you see your church?

- **Church as a Cruise Ship (Cruise Ship Pic) Question:** Can it improve my religious quality of life? Meet my needs? Do I like it?
- **Church as a Battleship (Battleship Pic) Question:** How's my church reaching the lost, helping poor, engaging culture?
- **Church as an Aircraft Carrier (Aircraft Carrier Pic) Question:** How can it equip me to make disciples in my city & send me to start churches in my city?

You can't make a disciple if you are not a disciple...Follow Jesus & Embrace the Mission!

Sources & Further Reading Opportunities:

- *Tyndale Bible Dictionary* – Elwell & Comfort (2001)
- *Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary* – Hughes & Laney (2001)
- *New Bible Commentary* – D.A. Carson, R.T. France (1994)
- *Critical & Explanatory* – Jamieson, Fausset & Brown (1997)
- *Bible Knowledge Commentary* – J.F. Walvoord & R.B. Zook (1985)
- *Faithlife Study Bible* – J.D. Barry (2012)
- *CSB Study Bible* – Editor Trevin Wax (2017)
- *Evangelical Commentary on the Bible* – Richard J. Erickson (1995)

