
YOUR ROLE IN CHRIST'S GREAT COMMISSION

(Matthew 28:16-20)

The mission of our church is anchored upon the Great Commission of Christ: ***We are a Gospel-Commissioned, Disciple-Making Church which proclaims God's Word, equips God's people and witnesses to the lost.*** Reflecting on Matthew 28:16-20, let's consider three ways on how we could fulfill our role in carrying out the Great Commission.

1. _____ to the sovereign authority of Christ.

Jesus' Great Commission begins with Jesus' Great Claim, "*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me*" (Matthew 28:16-18). Jesus's sovereign authority to rule, to save and to judge has been given to Him by God the Father (Philippians 2:8-11). As the Sovereign Lord, Jesus reigns over all the heavenly realms. Even Satan himself, with his evil forces, is rendered powerless by our Lord Jesus (Hebrews 2:14; Colossians 2:15). Jesus also rules supremely over all the earth. He has sovereign and unrivaled dominion over all rulers and nations everywhere in this planet. He is the One who leads, directs and orchestrates all the affairs of human history to serve the purpose of His glorious will. As Christians saved by the grace and mercy of Jesus, we should gladly bow and fully submit to the Lordship of Jesus. As our Lord, our lives belong to Jesus and every spheres and details of our life are directed by Him. This sovereign and pervasive authority of our Lord Jesus should give us sufficient confidence to fulfill and finish the Great Commission.

2. _____ to the mission assigned to you by Christ.

The Great Commission specifies the mission strategy of our Lord: "*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*" (Matt. 28:19-20). The main and central command is to make disciples. A disciple is someone who trusts in Christ alone for salvation and follows Jesus in lifelong learning, obedience, self-denial and submission (Romans 10:9; Matthew 16:24; 11:29; John 8:31). The components of disciple-making can be summed up into two simple directives: bring them in and build them up. We bring people in by going and reaching out to unbelieving people with the gospel of Christ. Bringing people in also involves the command to baptize Jesus' disciples in the name of the Triune God (Matthew 28:19). Through baptism, a believer identifies himself with Christ and the body of Christ. Disciple-making further involves building up believers unto spiritual maturity by teaching them to obey all the commands of Christ (Matthew 28:20). The goal of our teaching is not merely the transfer of biblical information, but lifelong obedience to Christ.

3. _____ in the promise of the sustaining presence of Christ.

Jesus begins and ends the Great Commission with His encouraging promise to build and strengthen our confidence as we fulfill our mission. Our greatest comfort when it comes to the Great Commission is this: We carry out our mission with the reassuring promise of the sovereign power of Christ and the sustaining presence of Christ (Matthew 28:18,20; Revelation 11:15).
