

The Mandate of the Great Commission

Lesson for Sunday, May 10, 2026

TEXT: Matthew 28:19-20

INTRODUCTION:

⇒ What is it about the Great Commission that makes some people nervous?

BIBLE STUDY:

1. _____ to Potential Disciples (Matthew 28:19)
 - a. The first action that we must take to fulfill the GC is to move from where we are to where lost people are.
 - b. We find this in the very first word of verse 19: “Go!”
 - i. This is a verb that can be translated literally “_____.”
 - ii. This is a direct command from Jesus for each Christian to share the Gospel.
 - c. The Lord has clearly commanded His followers to go to those who do not know Him and communicate the good news.
 - d. Unless someone goes and tells them how to be saved, they cannot hear and respond to the Gospel message (Romans 10:13-17).
 - e. DISCUSS: What does this mean for us in Florence? What are the challenges of this? How intentional are we in going to the lost and unchurched?

2. _____ Disciples (vs. 19)
 - a. This means that we are to win the lost to faith in Christ by sharing with them the Gospel.
 - b. You will be surprised how many opportunities God will give you if you become a going Christian, sharing the Gospel on your way.
 - i. We must be _____ up, asking the Lord to make us aware of opportunities.
 - ii. We must be _____. Can you share the Gospel? Do you carry Gospel literature?
 - iii. We must be _____. When opportunities come up, we must be willing to step up and to speak out.

3. _____ Disciples (vs. 19)
 - a. The third action necessary to fulfill our GC mandate is to mark disciples by “baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”
 - b. Baptism is an _____ picture of an _____ transformation.
 - i. The Christian identifies with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus through this symbolic act.

- ii. The new convert gives testimony of death to his former life, the cleansing of his sin, and the new life he has received from Christ.
 - c. Simultaneously, the new believer identifies with the _____ in which they are baptized.
 - d. Baptism marks the new Christian as a _____ of Jesus and a _____ of the local body of Christ.
4. _____ Disciples (vs. 20).
- a. The final action necessary if we are going to be obedient to the GC is to help the new converts to mature spiritually. We see this in verse 20a.
 - b. This refers to the process of discipleship, and it requires the willingness of older, mature believers coming alongside the new convert to help equip them in their new Christian faith.
 - i. They need to learn to _____ with the Lord.
 - ii. They need to learn to _____ the Lord both corporately within the local church as well as in their personal life.
 - iii. The need to learn to _____ for the Lord.
 - c. The key to discipleship is _____. The new Christian must be taught “to observe all things.” It is much more than head-knowledge; it is life transformation.

APPLICATION:

- ⇒ Obedience to the GC begins with a willingness to go. This has two specific applications to discuss:
- First, we have a _____ responsibility to go to our world.
 - As we branch out all over the Pee Dee Region this week, we each must assume responsibility for “our world” where we work, live and play.
 - Second, we have a _____ responsibility.
 - This is why we have opportunities like our Summer Evangelism Strategy with the door-to-door and new move visits.
 - What nights is your class scheduled to come out?