

The Great Commission

Read Scriptures: Matthew 28:16 – 20, 1 John 1:1 – 7

Firstly, can everyone just close their eyes for me and imagine you are in a prison cell, and you have been locked up and have thick cold chains and shackles around your hands and feet. You are guilty of all the crimes you have been accused of and are awaiting further punishment. While you are waiting for this worse imaginable punishment in walks in this mighty man and saviour. He takes the punishment for you. He who knew no sin, TOOK the punishment for you. Let us just remember that... He who knew no sin, TOOK the punishment for you. He died for you. As you turned from your sins to Him and get to know more about Him. This act of repentance by turning to Him, you find yourself forgiven. As this happens you notice your chains fall off. Instead of being guilty, you are innocent. Instead of being in a prison cell, you are now free. You can open your eyes now. This is where the Gospel finishes for most people... and it doesn't have to be that way, as the Lord has so much more planned for us. We have been given the good news and have been saved from our sins and death, through repentance and faith and trust in the Lord Jesus.

The aim of this sermon is to:

- Is to understand the meaning of the great commission and why we do it?

Matthew 28:16 we can see that the Lord Jesus was speaking to the remaining eleven disciples. They went to the mountain and met with Him. Going to a mountain or high place was where people went and suggested they met with God. This occurred after the Lord's resurrection the disciples were meeting with God in the flesh. Who is the only begotten Son of God, The Lord Jesus.

Matthew 28: 17-18 **When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.** He gave them this teaching and commandment. The last commandment. This is also known in Christianity as the Great Commission; this was the teaching that founded the birth of the Church. It is the teaching

that is the responsibility of every believer. Young & old, male & female, and in leadership and church congregation.

v17 the disciples came to the Lord Jesus and worshiped him. So, whenever we want to do anything, we should draw close to the Lord and worship Him. When we are in Him we have all the power and authority mentioned in v18 *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."*

We can find a supernatural power and authority over heaven and earth. As He died on the cross for our sins. He was able to do this as He Won authority over sin and death.

John 14:12-14

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

v19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Who was the Lord Jesus speaking to when we read these verses. We need to understand who the Lord Jesus is speaking to which give the true meaning and objective of the text and our responsibility as a Christian.

Was He just speaking to the eleven disciples or was He speaking to wider audience? This is a crucial to understand as it affects the teaching.

To help us with this we need to use the King James Versions (KJV). The KJV uses archaic English to help more closely interpret the original text. So, v19 in the KJV it reads as follows:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

When the scriptures were first translated, they were translated from Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek and Latin into a common tongue like English. The translator

like William Tindale used Archaic English to get the closest word for word translation as possible. In some cases, words were made up as the English equivalence did not exist. These were words like begotten and propitiation and concepts like the judgement seat. Archaic English is what you see in the writings of Shakespeare.

Looking at the pronoun of the word “ye” means you in modern English. Other pronouns for you in Archaic English are thee and thou. This would be used in a sentence when speaking to a single person or individual. Whereas ye and you would be used for a group or multiple people. So, the word used in the KJV is “ye”. I believe that the Lord Jesus was speaking to the disciples and the wider Church. He was speaking to you and me.

The Lord Jesus was telling all of us *“go and make disciples of all nations”*. How do we make disciples? Disciples are made by preaching and teaching other about the Lord Jesus. Preaching to people on the street, going door to door and telling people you know about the Lord Jesus and edifying His name

What do we teach others? v20 we teach them about the Lord’s teachings, laws and commandments. This is why it is crucial that we read the Word of God and have an understanding and knowledge. To be able to give answers to difficult questions. We should all strive to gain a better understanding This is not in our own strength but given from God James 1:5.

We do not need to do this on our own. The Lord Jesus will always be *with you always, to the very end of the age*. I went to see Paul Mallard on Friday evening and he used a lovely example to explain this. He used to go on walks with his daughter when she was little. She used to ask if she could hold his hand instead of her. He agreed to this but when it got dangerous like near a cliff edge, Paul explained to her that he needed to hold onto her hand. He held her hand tightly just in case she fell. He would be able to catch her. The Lord Jesus will always be with us. Even when we are weak, He has our hand, and He will never let us go.

You might be sitting and thinking how can I go and tell others about the Lord Jesus? I’m not confident or charismatic enough to stop people on the street

and talk about God. Please read **Philippians 1:6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.** If we trust in the Lord, He will help and guide us along the way. I say this respectfully and with reverence to the apostles, if God can use fishermen and tax collectors, some of the lowest individuals in society. Amazing things can happen when we truly put our faith and trust in the Lord. God can use us all. And I am not saying we should all go and stand on the soap box in the middle of Birmingham to preach the Gospel. However, what we can do is to aim to serve the Lord through the church for the glory of the Gospel.

Lastly, why do we testify and teach other about the Lord Jesus? Is it to help get others saved? To your shock no is the answer to that question. Our sole reason for spreading the good news is to give glory to the Lord Jesus. If individuals get saved along the way, that is great. This means every time we go and give the Gospel, it is for the Glory and Worship of Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:1-7

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

I would encourage you if you haven't given your life to the Lord Jesus. Please have a think about the scriptures we have read this morning and pray to God to reveal Himself to you.

Amen

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大使命

讀經：馬太福音 28:16 – 20、約翰一書 1:1 – 7

首先，大家能不能給我閉上眼睛，想像一下自己在牢房裡，被關起來，手腳上都套著厚厚的冰冷的鎖鍊和腳鐐。您犯下被指控的所有罪行，正在等待進一步的懲罰。當你在等待這位強大的人和救世主的行走時，你可以想像到這種更糟糕的懲罰。他替你接受懲罰。那位無罪的人替你承受了懲罰。讓我們記住.....無罪的人為你承受了懲罰。他為你而死。當你從罪孽轉向他並更多地了解他。透過轉向祂而悔改的行為，你會發現自己被寬恕了。當這種情況發生時，你會發現你的鏈條脫落了。你不是有罪，而是無辜。你現在不再被關在牢房裡，而是自由了。你現在可以睜開眼睛了。這就是福音對大多數人來說結束的地方.....但事實並非一定如此，因為主為我們制定了更多的計劃。透過悔改、相信和信靠主耶穌，我們已經得到了好消息，並從罪惡和死亡中被拯救出來。

這次講道的目的是：

- 是了解大使命的意義以及為什麼要做？

馬太福音 28 章 16 節我們看見主耶穌是對剩下的十一個門徒說話。他們上山去見他。上山或高處是人們去那裡並暗示他們會見上帝的地方。這是主復活之後，門徒在肉身與神相遇之後的事。誰是神的獨生子，主耶穌。

馬太福音 28:17-18 他們看見他就拜他。但也有人表示懷疑。他給了他們這個教訓和誡命。最後的誡命。這在基督教中也被稱為「大使命」。這是教會誕生的基礎。這是教學這是**每個**信徒的責任。年輕和年老，男性和女性，以及領導層和教會會眾。

v17 門徒來到主耶穌面前，敬拜祂。所以，**每當**我們想做任何事的時候，我們都應該親近主、敬拜祂。當我們在他裡面時，我們就擁有第 18 節提到的一切能力和權柄。

我們可以找到超越天地的超自然力量和權威。當祂為我們的罪死在十字架上。他之所以能夠做到這一點，是因為他贏得了勝過罪和死亡的權柄。

約翰福音 14:12-14

我實實在在地告訴你們，我所做的事，信我的人也要做，並且要做比這更大的事，因為我往父那裡去。你們奉我的名無論求什麼，我都會成就，使父因子得榮耀。你可以以我的名義向我提出任何要求，我都會做到。

v19 所以你們要去，使萬民作我的門徒，奉父、子、聖靈的名給他們施洗，當我們讀到這些經文時，主耶穌在跟誰說話？我們需要了解主耶穌在對誰說話，這給了經文的真正意義和目標以及我們作為基督徒的責任。

他只是對十一個門徒說話還是對更廣泛的聽眾說話？理解這一點至關重要，因為它會影響教學。

為了幫助我們解決這個問題，我們需要使用 King James Versions (KJV)。KJV 使用古英語來幫助更準確地解釋原文。因此，KJV 中的 v19 內容如下：

因此，你們要去教導萬民，奉父、子、聖靈的名給他們施洗：

當經文第一次被翻譯時，它們被從希伯來語、阿拉姆語、希臘語和拉丁語翻譯成英語這樣的通用語言。像威廉·廷代爾 (William Tindale) 這樣的譯者使用古式英語來盡可能地逐字翻譯。在某些情況下，由於不存在對應的英語單詞，因此會虛構單詞。這些是像「生」和「挽回祭」這樣的詞，以及像審判台這樣的概念。古英語就是你在莎士比亞的著作中看到的。

看“ye”這個字的代名詞，在現代英語中意味著“你”。在古英語中，「你」的其他代名詞有「e」和「thou」。當與一個人或個人交談時，這將用在句子中。而“ye”和“you”則用於一群人或多人。因此，KJV 中使用的字是「ye」。我相信主耶穌是在對門徒和更廣泛的教會說話。他正在對你和我說話。

主耶穌告訴我們所有人「你們要去，使萬民作我的門徒」。我們如何使人成為門徒？門徒是透過傳講和教導他人有關主耶穌的知識而造就的。在街上向人們傳道，挨家挨戶地向你認識的人傳講主耶穌，並造就他的名

我們教別人甚麼？v20 我們教導他們主的教訓、律法和誠命。這就是為什麼我們閱讀神的話語並獲得理解和知識至關重要。能夠回答困難的問題。我們都應該努力獲得更好的理解，這不是靠我們自己的力量，而是上帝從雅各書 1:5 所賜的。

我們不需要自己做這件事。主耶穌將永遠與你同在，直到世界的末了。週五晚上我去見了保羅·馬拉德，他用了一個可愛的例子來解釋這一點。當女兒還小的時候，他常常和她一起散步。她常常問是否可以握住他的手而不是她的手。他同意了，但當事情變得危險時，例如接近懸崖邊緣，保羅向她解釋說，他需要握住她的手。他緊緊握住她的手，怕她跌倒。他一定能抓住她。主耶穌將永遠與我們同在。即使我們軟弱，祂也拉著我們的手，祂永遠不會放開我們。

你可能會坐下來想，我怎麼能去告訴別人有關主耶穌的事呢？我沒有足夠的自信或魅力來阻止街上的人們談論上帝。請讀腓立比書 1:6，深信那在你們心裡動了善工的，必將這工完成，直到基督耶穌的日子。如果我們信靠主，祂會一路幫助和引導我們。如果上帝能夠使用漁民和稅吏這些社會中最低層的人的話，我懷著對使徒們的尊敬和崇敬之情說這句話。當我們真正相信並信賴主時，奇妙的事就會發生。神可以使用我們所有人。我並不是說我們都應該站在伯明罕市中心的肥皂盒上傳福音。然而，我們能做的就是為了福音的榮耀，透過教會事奉主。

最後，我們為什麼要見證、教導人有關主耶穌的事呢？是為了幫助別人得救嗎？令你震驚的是，這個問題的答案是否定的。我們傳播好消息的唯一目的就是將榮耀歸給主耶穌。如果個人一路上得救，那就太好了。這表示我們每次去傳福音，都是為了榮耀和敬拜主耶穌基督。

約翰一書 1:1-7

關於生命之道，我們所傳講的，是從太初就有的，是我們所聽見的，所看見的，親眼所看過的，親手所摸過的。生命出現了；我們已經看見了，也為它作見證，並且向你們傳揚那原與父同在、已經向我們顯現的永生。我們將所

看見、所聽見的告訴你們，使你們也能與我們交通。我們與天父和祂的兒子耶穌基督相交。我們寫這篇文章是為了讓我們的喜悅更完整。這是我們從祂那裡聽到並向你們宣告的信息：神是光；在他身上根本沒有黑暗。如果我們聲稱與祂相交，卻行在黑暗中，我們就是在說謊，沒有活出真理。但如果我們走進去在光中，正如祂在光中一樣，我們彼此相交，祂兒子耶穌的寶血淨化了我們所有的罪。

如果你還沒有把生命獻給主耶穌，我會鼓勵你。請想想我們今天早上讀過的經文，並祈求上帝向你啟示祂自己。

阿門