



Close & Far

27-Oct: All are called to go!

Series Summary: Scripture clearly teaches us that every believer in Jesus is called to live on a mission (Matthew 28:18-20). We are all missionaries sent out into the mission field both locally and abroad (Acts 1:8).

Series Call to Action: Take your next step to go on mission for Jesus

Get Them Talking: What is the furthest place that you have ever travelled to? Why did you go there? What did you do?

Leader Note: This passage immediately follows Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. Jesus told His followers to meet Him in Galilee. This is the report of that encounter and Jesus' call on all to be on mission with Him.

Read the passage.

Matthew 28:17-20 **17** When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. **18** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** 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, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

How did the people respond to Jesus when they saw Jesus? Why do you think that some doubted while others believed that Jesus was alive?

When Jesus said that all authority on heaven and on earth has been given to Him, what does that mean? How did He prove that all authority is His? Is there anybody in our life that has unlimited authority like Jesus?

Leader Note: All authority was given to Jesus and He proved it by coming to earth, living a perfect life, dying a criminal's death, and being raised again. The resurrection proves that He is who He says He is and that He has authority over all.

If Jesus has authority over everything in heaven and on earth, what does that say about His authority over you and me?

THE CALL OF JESUS

Jesus has authority over everything in our world and He proved it by coming for us and being raised again for the dead. If a man says he will die and come back to life AND he does, you should follow him. Jesus is the only person in all of history to do this because He is God's Son who is in charge of you, me, and the whole world.

In Matthew 28, we read some of Jesus' last words to His followers. What would a guy who is in charge tell His followers to do? He told them to go and make disciples. He gave them their mission in life and He gives us our mission in life. We are all called to go about our daily life and make disciples wherever Jesus has placed us. That means we make disciples at school. We make disciples at work. We make disciples in our friend circles. We do what Jesus said because He is in charge and because He wants a relationship with all people - your friends, your coworkers, your teammates, and your classmates.

Just like we read in Matthew 28, not everyone will believe but that doesn't stop us from sharing Jesus and making disciples wherever we are. Before you map out how you can go on mission with Jesus, let's take a look at what Jesus tells us to do:

Matthew 28:17-20 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 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, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28, teaches us that our lives and our church should focus on:

- Inviting people to believe in Jesus through our words and actions.
- Leading believers to take the next step to submit to God's leadership.
- Teaching the Word of God with clarity and personal application.
- Trusting and worshiping Jesus in loving relationships with other believers.

Jesus has called all of us to play our part in making disciples, near and far. He has called you and the church needs you to live on mission with Jesus.

How do we go on mission with Jesus to do what He commanded in the Great Commission, Matthew 28:19-20?

- What can you do this week to show someone you follow Jesus with your words and actions?
- What will you do this week to encourage another Christian to keep walking with Jesus?

- What commitment do you need to make to keep growing in your faith?