

Series: Marks of a Healthy Church
Sermon #12: 'The Great Commission
[Matthew 28:16-20](#)

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Jesus Christ has been pleased to include us in a larger, 'To Be Continued' storyline; and he now calls you and me to contribute to the storyline he is writing today here at Calvary Baptist.

Our Savior's last words set the stage for the church's first and most important mission in every age!

3 Non-Negotiable Elements of a 'Great Commission Church':

1. **A posture of worship... we recognize Jesus alone has limitless, unrestrained, universal authority over everyone and everything! (vv. 16-18)**

The worship of Jesus is not just limited to what happens for a little while on a mountain in Galilee; what we have in v.17 is simply the starting point of a global phenomenon that will go on forever (see Rev. 5:9-10; 7:9-10)!

Could it be that the reason we don't get excited about the Great Commission is because we have a flawed understanding of who Jesus is? We have a small view of Christ and a very big, inflated view of ourselves.

If we rightly worship Jesus, we will gladly submit to His divine authority because there is no higher authority in this entire universe than Jesus Christ!

2. **We are called to make disciples (v.19)**

There is **one main command Jesus gives us here: make disciples**. Everything else Jesus is saying (the going, the baptizing, the teaching) answers the question of 'How do we make disciples?'

To love and obey Jesus is to be deeply invested in seeing the people sitting next to you love and obey Jesus also... the moment we become Christians, we become disciples (followers of Jesus Christ); and with a little bit of time, as the word of God becomes sweeter to the tastebuds of our soul, followers of Jesus start making more followers of Jesus!

We must commit ourselves more intentionally to this local fellowship. Start by making your #1 priority to gather on the Lord's Day with your church family; we can think of a lot of reasons not to be at church on Sunday mornings... **but if we rightly understand that a culture of disciple-making begins every Sunday morning at 10am, church becomes my excuse for missing everything else!**

If we're serious about making disciples in this local church, we will eventually move out of our comfort zones... we will cross the oceans, we will go to the ends of the earth, we will preach the gospel... and by the grace of God we will plant healthy churches made up of true converts who want to live in submission to the authority of Jesus and His word.

3. We rest in a certain and unfailing promise (v.20)

Jesus who is Emmanuel, God with us (Matt. 1:23), has pledged His very presence so we can continue in our mission as a local church: to make disciples.

No matter how you look at it, our mission will never fail... and that's all because we have a risen and glorified Savior who is at work in each and every single one of his people so we can do our job well: making followers of Christ who will go on to make more followers of Christ.