

The Great Commission

Purpose: To teach Christians the importance of making Jesus' mission to seek and save the lost as their mission. To heed to the call to go and make disciples of all nations.

(Mat 5:14 NIV) "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

(Mat 5:15 NIV) Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

(Mat 5:16 NIV) In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

Jesus taught his disciples that they are to be the light of the world.

He challenged them to never extinguish or hide that light, but rather reveal that light to all men.

Bringing Christ to the world by your changed life will bring praise to God.

Purpose: Why is it important for you to share Christ?

(Luke 19:10 NIV) For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

Jesus' purpose was to bring salvation to the lost (world)

(1 Tim 1:15 NIV) Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst.

(1 Tim 1:16 NIV) But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

Jesus came to this world to save sinners..

Remember: you are the example to the world that God can save anyone.

If God can save you, he can save anyone!

(1 Tim 2:3 NIV) This is good, and pleases God our Savior,

(1 Tim 2:4 NIV) who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

God wants all men to be saved and come to knowledge of the truth.

(2 Pet 3:8 NIV) But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

(2 Pet 3:9 NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

God wants all men to come to repentance.

God's patience gives men the opportunity to repent.

God delays judgment so men can repent

Plan: How do we fit into God's plan?

(Mark 1:14 NIV) After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.

(Mark 1:15 NIV) "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

(Mark 1:16 NIV) As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.

(Mark 1:17 NIV) "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

(Mark 1:18 NIV) At once they left their nets and followed him.

From the start of Jesus ministry he calls his followers to fish for men.

"Come follow me...I will make you fishers of men". Jesus took his purpose and gave it to them.

Their response? Immediately.

(Mat 28:18 NIV) Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

(Mat 28:19 NIV) 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,

(Mat 28:20 NIV) and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus commanded his followers to be active by making disciples of all nations.

"Obey everything" implies teaching followers to even obey this Great commission.

Jesus had a plan to multiply. It starts with you!

Act: Are we ready to go?

(Rom 10:12 NIV) For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,

(Rom 10:13 NIV) for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

(Rom 10:14 NIV) How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

(Rom 10:15 NIV) And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

It says that all who calls on the name of Jesus will be saved.

But how can people be saved without believing?

How can they believe without hearing?

How can people hear without someone preaching?

How can someone preach without being sent to preach?

Are you willing to be sent to preach?

Are you willing to be the one having the beautiful feet who takes the goods news to people?

(Acts 8:4 NIV) Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went.

Persecuted Christians preached the word wherever they went, voluntarily. They were probably ordinary Christians and not prominent leaders of the church. What would you want to do?

(Acts 11:19 NIV) Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews.

(Acts 11:20 NIV) Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling

them the good news about the Lord Jesus.

(Acts 11:21 NIV) The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

Men who were scattered through persecution traveled very far to other cities to tell people the good news about Jesus.

The Lord's hand was with them and many people believed.

What would you do? Have a plan to tell people the Good News of Jesus.

Conclusion: As a Christian we need to have Jesus' Great commission on our heart. You were reached out to by someone and now you need to do likewise out of gratitude.

We need to share our faith with as many people as possible – with our friends, our relatives, with our colleagues at work and school, with anyone we can find. Evangelism is the fruit of your salvation. When you are saved you want everyone else to be saved like you. We need to learn to share our faith with our family, friends or even strangers.