

Title ideas:  
The King's Commission!

## Matthew 28:18-20 - The King's Commission!

### Scriptures:

Ephesians 1:19-21 - what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them,

saying, "All authority has been given to Me in

G1849 –  
jurisdiction,  
sphere of  
authority, control,  
power, right to  
judge.

G1325 -

heaven and on earth.

### Notes:

Matthew's goal with this gospel was to depict Jesus as King. He has done by describing the resurrection of Christ. All that is left is for Jesus to give His disciples their marching orders. And until we receive new orders from the King, these are our orders also.

Jesus went from being the lowly carpenter from Nazareth to King over all creation (Ephesians 1:19-21).

'All authority...' is a declaration of the ultimate victory of Christ. God the Father has given His Son Christ Jesus the authority to carry out God's perfect will in the world. When a police officer is sworn in, he or she is given the authority of the government to uphold the laws of the land. There are people who will claim the police do not have authority over them. It usually doesn't go well for them, in fact, it usually makes things much worse. Similarly, Jesus has all authority over everyone. You can claim He has no authority, or ignore His authority, but that does not negate His authority. And it will not go well for those who do that – eternally!

Scriptures:  
Ephesians 2:11-13 -  
Therefore remember that  
you, once Gentiles in the  
flesh—who are called  
Uncircumcision by what is  
called the Circumcision  
made in the flesh by  
hands—12 that at that time  
you were without Christ,  
being aliens from the  
commonwealth of Israel  
and strangers from the  
covenants of promise,  
having no hope and  
without God in the world.  
13 But now in Christ Jesus  
you who once were far off  
have been brought near by  
the blood of Christ.

Mark 16:15 - And He said to  
them, “Go into all the  
world and preach the  
gospel to every creature.”

2 Corinthians 5:20 - Now  
then, we are ambassadors  
for Christ, as though God  
were pleading through us:  
we implore you on Christ’s  
behalf, be reconciled to  
God.

## 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the

G3100 – make  
followers.

## nations, baptizing them in the name of the

G1484 - ἔθνος (ethnos).  
“people group (social) n.  
— a large group of  
people based on various  
cultural, physical, or  
geographical ties.”

## Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

‘nations’ – Greek word is ‘ethnos’,  
from which we get the words ethnic  
and ethnicity.

Ethnicity: the quality or fact of  
belonging to a population group or  
subgroup made up of people who  
share a common cultural  
background or descent.

‘...baptizing...’ – (Myron Augsburger  
– page 308) “Matthew says we are  
to baptize ‘in the name of...,’  
bringing persons into direct relation  
with God as we know Him: Creator,  
Redeemer, and Sanctifier.”

Notes:  
‘Go...’ in the authority which Christ  
was given by God the Father.

Jesus had accomplished something  
so remarkable that the whole world  
needs to know about it. Up until  
Jesus’ death, burial, and  
resurrection, mankind was lost in  
their sin with no hope of being right  
with God (Ephesians 2:11-13). We  
were created to be loved by God and  
to glorify Him through that love.  
Because of sin we were separated  
from God. The gospel message is not  
about building a religion – it is about  
helping people meet their loving  
Creator God. Jesus died to save the  
world, and the Great Commission is  
Him telling us to tell the world about  
it and to tell them why He did it.

‘...make disciples...’ – A disciple is a  
follower or learner. This is referred  
to as the Great Commission. Once  
someone has answered the call to  
faith in the finished work of Christ,  
they begin a journey that ultimately  
leads to answering the call to ‘go  
and make disciples.’ Ultimately, this  
is a call to take the gospel out to the  
those who need to hear it. That is  
most clear in Mark’s rendering of  
this verse (Mark 16:15). Once saved,  
we are to prepare to be Christ’s  
ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20).  
Another way of saying this is, ‘What I  
have done for you – you go ,do for  
others, and keep doing it until  
everyone on earth is saved.

Making disciples entails more than  
just getting them saved – that is just  
the beginning of discipleship.

Verse 20 gives us the primary tool  
required for discipleship – teaching.

Not everyone is called to be  
teachers. In Ephesians 4:11, Paul  
says ‘some’ are called to the specific  
ministry of teaching. But then just a  
little later he says that all called to  
do the work of the ministry.

No church should ever be about the  
pastor, or the worship music, or the  
programs they offer – it should be  
about Christ Jesus. You shouldn’t  
choose a church based on how it  
makes you feel, but based on how  
they help you grow in faith.

The word ‘Christian’ ought to  
describe who we are in Christ. Sadly,  
that term has been co-opted by  
some who are not like Christ. I prefer  
the term ‘Christ-follower’ now.

Scriptures:

Philippians 3:9 - ...and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith...

Ephesians 6:13 - Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

## 20 teaching them to observe all things that

G1321 -

G5083 – “to observe (conform) v. — to conform one’s action or practice to.”

Notes:

‘teaching’ – One of the definitions of disciple is learner. That means that learning is required for being a disciple. Learning also requires a teacher. While the Holy Spirit does teach us, God made us to receive teaching primarily in community with Spirit-led people. We do that one-on-one, in small-group Bible Studies, here on Sunday morning and many other ways.

## I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you

G1781 -

‘...to observe...’ – Has the meaning of conforming one’s actions or practice. A reasonable illustration of this is pressing playdoh into a mold. You have two things; a mold that has a shape that you want to replicate, and the playdoh that is in the shape of a ball or lump. To replicate the shape, the playdoh must be pressed into the mold. The purpose of teaching is to press you into the mold that will conform you to the image of Christ. It is a slow, lifelong process of allowing God the Holy Spirit to conform to Christ’s image through the teaching of the Word of God.

## always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

G3956 -

G4930 - consummation n. — the act of bringing to (final) completion or fruition.”

G165 - era, a unit of time as a particular stage of history, world system, practices and standards of those without God.

Through the process of sanctification, we learn to walk, not in our own righteousness, but in the righteousness of Christ (Philippians 3:9). That is the part that the world sees. Nothing proclaims the power of the gospel like a life changed by Christ.

And because Jesus promised us that He will be with us, not just today, but until this era ends – that is, until He comes back again. Believe Him and stand (Ephesians 6:13). And once you can stand, then ‘Go!’ Tell the world about Jesus!

‘I am with you always...’ – The disciples were about to embark on the greatest mission in history – they were to take the brand-new gospel message out to a hostile world. What an encouragement this promise would be. As they faced hypocritical religious leaders, carnal Jews, and pagan kings – Jesus was standing there with them in Spirit. As they faced persecution of the most vile and horrific kinds, Jesus was with them. As they dealt with loneliness, rejection, fear, abuse, and mocking, Jesus was with them. It is unlikely that any of us will face to face even a fraction of what the early apostles and church did, but we will have to stand in the face of uncomfortable things. Just as Jesus was with the early disciples, He is with disciples in 2024. Jesus is our King, and if our King stands with us, we have nothing to fear. If our King stands with us there is nothing we cannot do. If our Kings stands with us there is no weapon formed against us that can prosper.

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