

# The Risen King's Commission

## Summary and Goal

We are to go to the nations with the authority of the risen King, for Jesus alone has the power to save. In Him also is the power for our mission as we go. We are to make disciples through the proclamation of the risen King. We are to teach the believers of our proclamation to obey all that Christ has commanded, knowing that Jesus will finish the good work He began and that He will never forsake us.

### ***Main Passage***

Matthew 28:16-20

### ***Session Outline***

1. Go to the nations with the authority of the risen King (Matt. 28:16-18).
2. Make disciples by proclaiming the risen King (Matt. 28:19).
3. Teach people to obey all Christ has commanded (Matt. 28:20).

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### ***Theological Theme***

The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

### ***Christ Connection***

Before Jesus ascended to the Father, He commissioned His disciples to go into the world and make disciples of all nations. Under the authority of Jesus, we make disciples by baptizing people in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and by teaching them everything Christ commanded us. As we go, we trust in the presence of Christ, who promises to be with us on mission.

### ***Missional Application***

God calls us to make disciples of all nations by declaring the truth of the gospel with our words and demonstrating the reality of His love with our actions.

## Session Plan

# The Risen King's Commission

## Session 11

### ? For Further Discussion

How did the Lord use other human beings in drawing you to Himself when you were exposed to the gospel?

### ? For Further Discussion

What does Matthew's detail about some disciples worshiping Jesus indicate about the author's belief in His identity?

Why would this detail have been shocking to Jewish people in the first century?

Why do we have a tendency to overlook significant details like these in the Gospel accounts?

### Pack Item 6: Fulfilled in Him

Recall this quote poster and ask the following question:

• How does Jesus' identity as the law giver relate to His authority over heaven and earth and His authority to commission His followers?

## Introduction

Highlight that the Lord normally calls people to Himself by using other human beings. God has a mission for His people (leader p. 130; PSG p. 101).

- ? What are some other missions we receive in life? Who does the sending? What are the goals?
- ? What makes the difference between going on a mission with joy and going on one with a sense of drudgery?

Summarize this session on the risen King's authority and our mission to the nations (leader p. 131; PSG p. 102).

## 1. Go to the nations with the authority of the risen King (Matt. 28:16-18).

Read Matthew 28:16-18. Note that the disciples had been informed that Jesus would be heading to Galilee. Relate how some disciples worshiped and some doubted (leader pp. 131-132; PSG p. 102).

- ? Why do you think some struggled with doubt even as they looked at the resurrected Jesus?
- ? What does the presence of doubt at this event say about our desires for tangible evidences to overcome our own doubts?

Establish that Jesus wasn't shaken by the presence of unbelief. Communicate that even though Jesus informed His followers of His death and subsequent resurrection, they struggled to believe all that He had told them. But we live by faith, and our King has all authority (leader pp. 132-133; PSG p. 103).

- ? What fears do you have that would keep you from obeying the mission Jesus has given to us?
- ? How does the reality of Jesus' authority over all of heaven and earth overcome those fears?

## 2. Make disciples by proclaiming the risen King (Matt. 28:19).

Ask a volunteer to read Matthew 28:19. Explain the importance for the disciples and us to understand Jesus' preeminence and the universal and eternal extent of His authority (*reference Pack Item 8: Jesus' Exaltation as needed to help emphasize this point*). Then talk about the nature of Jesus' instruction for us to go (leader pp. 133-134; PSG pp. 104-105).

*Ask groups of 3-4 to answer the questions using the chart in the PSG. After a couple of moments, call for some responses for the whole group* (leader p. 135; PSG p. 105).

Emphasize that salvation belongs to the Lord, and only He can save, but we play a wonderful part in this salvation by sharing the gospel. Thus, our confidence is not in ourselves but in the risen King and His message (leader p. 135; PSG p. 106).

- What are some ways we can unintentionally make the message of the gospel about us instead of about Jesus?

Explain that once people have placed their faith in Jesus, He commands us to baptize them as new disciples. State that baptism does not save but publicly proclaims the gospel to a watching world (leader p. 136; PSG p. 106).

- How might we unintentionally downplay the importance of baptism as a part of the Great Commission?

## 3. Teach people to obey all Christ has commanded (Matt. 28:20).

Read Matthew 28:20. Point out that Jesus told His disciples to teach believers all things He had commanded them. The Great Commission isn't solely about evangelism but about discipleship as well. Highlight Jesus' reminder that the disciples (and us) will not be alone in this mission (leader pp. 136-137; PSG p. 107).

- How have you experienced being discipled by another in your own life?

### Conclusion

Close by stating that despite our busy lives and schedules, our ultimate mission is to share the good news of Jesus and make disciples (leader p. 137; PSG p. 108). *Apply the truths of this session with "His Mission, Your Mission"* (PSG p. 109).

### Point 3 Option

Prior to the group meeting, email the following link to Kevin DeYoung's article "How Many Motivations Are There for Godliness?" for group members to read the article. In your email, ask group members to note 3-5 motivations that stand out to them and the reasons why.

<https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/kevindeyoung/2014/02/04/how-many-motivations-are-there-for-godliness/>

Ask groups of 3-4 to share their reflections on the article (print at least one copy for each group to look at). Conclude by asking this question of the large group:

- What are right and wrong ways to motivate Christians to obey all Christ has commanded?

**Christ Connection:** Before Jesus ascended to the Father, He commissioned His disciples to go into the world and make disciples of all nations. Under the authority of Jesus, we make disciples by baptizing people in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and by teaching them everything Christ commanded us. As we go, we trust in the presence of Christ, who promises to be with us on mission.

**Missional Application:** God calls us to make disciples of all nations by declaring the truth of the gospel with our words and demonstrating the reality of His love with our actions.

## Expanded Session Content

# The Risen King's Commission

## Session 11



### Voices from Church History

"Every Christian...is either a missionary or an impostor."<sup>1</sup>

—Charles Spurgeon  
(1834-1892)

### Introduction

I remember it like it was yesterday. A young girl with a ponytail and bubbly personality looked at me and knew there was something missing in my life...and she had it. She was a Christian and I was not. As we sat together talking about life, she shared the best news, the only news, that I needed to hear that day. She shared the gospel with me. She was a young woman on a mission and found the courage and boldness of Jesus to share. That sovereignly orchestrated interaction would change the entire course of my life and introduce me to my Savior.

Do you remember the first time you heard the gospel and believed? Perhaps your own story involves learning about Jesus in Sunday School or falling on hard times and hearing the Word preached or having faithful parents who passed on their faith to their children. There are a number of ways the Lord calls people to Himself, but it's rare that it happens without the intervention of another human being. God uses people to advance His mission and kingdom.

God has a people for His mission—it's His mission, and we get to participate in it. It's a mission that is filled with power from the Most High Priest. Our resurrected King has given us resurrection power to proclaim the good news to all nations and to teach them to obey everything He has commanded. If we are honest though, fear and busyness keep us from this Great Commission. We are fearful of what others might think or we are too busy to stop and share the good news. Nevertheless, this is our mission, and we should accept it joyfully.

- ❓ What are some other missions we receive in life? Who does the sending? What are the goals?
- ❓ What makes the difference between going on a mission with joy and going on one with a sense of drudgery?

## Session Summary

We are to go to the nations with the authority of the risen King, for Jesus alone has the power to save. In Him also is the power for our mission as we go. We are to make disciples through the proclamation of the risen King. We are to teach the believers of our proclamation to obey all that Christ has commanded, knowing that Jesus will finish the good work He began and that He will never forsake us.

### 1. Go to the nations with the authority of the risen King (Matt. 28:16-18).

*<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*



The King had risen from the grave, death had been conquered, and now He was ready to give instructions to His disciples. The disciples had been informed that Jesus would be heading to Galilee (v. 7), so they went there to meet their Savior.

The anticipation of seeing the resurrected Jesus must have been palpable. But at the same time, we know that the disciples struggled to understand that Jesus would die and be raised from the dead, just as He had said. The apostle John recorded Jesus explaining His death and resurrection to a confused bunch (John 16:16-24). They did not understand what He was saying, but He did promise them that when He returned, it would be for them like a mother who had endured the pain of childbirth but no longer remembered that pain for the joy of seeing her child after the delivery (16:21). Jesus said, "So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (16:22).

And so, here they were heading to Galilee to see the One they had been waiting for, the One not too long ago that they thought they had lost forever. And as Jesus predicted, when they saw Him, they worshiped. But still we see that some doubted.

### Further Commentary

"Perhaps it is best to conclude that, especially if the 'some' refers not to the Eleven but to other followers, the move from unbelief and fear to faith and joy was for them a 'hesitant' one. The Eleven...respond instantly with worship on the occasion of this new epiphany, but some (others) hesitated—without further specification as to their subsequent belief or doubt. If this is what Matthew means, he may be using this historical reminiscence to stress the fact that Jesus' resurrection was not an anticipated episode that required only enthusiasm and gullibility to win adherents among Jesus' followers. Far from it, they still were hesitant; and their failure to understand his repeated predictions of his resurrection, compounded with their despair after his crucifixion, worked to maintain their hesitancy for some time before they came to full faith. Jesus' resurrection did not instantly transform men of little faith and faltering understanding into spiritual giants."<sup>2</sup>

—D. A. Carson

## Voices from the Church

“I think that any Christian who hasn’t struggled with doubts—at least at some level—is probably guilty of not thinking deeply enough about his or her faith (or just not telling the truth). But, for those who are truly in Christ, I think that the *object* of our belief—Jesus Christ himself—is the sure foundation that keeps countering and defeating every doubt that arises (and doubts *will* arise from time to time).”<sup>3</sup>

—Jon Nielson

## Voices from Church History

“This authority was given to one who had just been crucified, buried in a tomb, laid dead and afterwards had arisen. Authority was given to him in both heaven and earth so that he who once reigned in heaven might also reign on earth through the faith of his believers.”<sup>4</sup>

—Jerome (circa 345-420)

What is unclear is whether some of the eleven disciples doubted or whether there was a broader crowd who followed the disciples to Galilee and it was some in this crowd who doubted. The answer to that question is beyond our certainty; nevertheless, there was doubt and hardness of heart present at that moment.

-  Why do you think some struggled with doubt even as they looked at the resurrected Jesus?
-  What does the presence of doubt at this event say about our desires for tangible evidences to overcome our own doubts?

Jesus wasn’t shaken by their unbelief, nor was He discouraged. Jesus was resolute about the mission—He is the risen King!—and graciously includes us on that mission. But before He shared His commission with His disciples, He established the strength behind it—Himself. Jesus has received complete authority and power from God the Father. As the apostle Paul commented on this in several of his letters:

- “For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living” (Rom. 14:9).
- “For ‘God has put all things in subjection under his feet.’ But when it says, ‘all things are put in subjection,’ it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him” (1 Cor. 15:27).
- “making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth” (Eph. 1:9-10).
- “Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth” (Phil. 2:9-10).
- “For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority” (Col. 2:9-10).

Jesus has authority—supreme authority. God has exalted Him, and His resurrection was more proof of His authority and His power. Christ is the head of all that was made. And here at the end of the Gospel of Matthew, with authority, Jesus will direct His disciples to go into the world. They went and we go also not on our own authority or in our own strength but with and by the authority of the risen King.

Jesus had informed His followers time and time again of His death and subsequent resurrection on the third day. Still, though they saw and experienced Jesus in the flesh for a period of around three years, they struggled to believe all that He had told them. But we live by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). We must trust the unseen Lord as we step out in faith to proclaim the good news to all nations. We can trust because all the Scriptures point to this moment when our King would triumph over death and reign supreme. It's with this authority that we go.

- ❓ What fears do you have that would keep you from obeying the mission Jesus has given to us?
- ❓ How does the reality of Jesus' authority over all of heaven and earth overcome those fears?

## 2. Make disciples by proclaiming the risen King (Matt. 28:19).

*<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

Jesus has complete authority over all the earth. In his Letter to the Ephesians, Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, prayed that the believers would fully comprehend the blessings of Jesus sovereign authority:

that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church. (Eph. 1:20-22)

- Jesus defeated death. He is our resurrected King.
- Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father. He is in His rightful place by God—at the throne of grace, exercising intercession and authority over all.
- Jesus is the fulfillment of Psalm 8:6, having dominion over all of creation.
- Jesus is the head of the church and has authority over all earthly rulers.

### Further Commentary

“Verses 18-20 bring us to the climax and conclusion of Matthew. Jesus is passing the torch to his disciples, even as he promises to be with them forever—spiritually, not physically—to empower them for future mission. Jesus can make the claim of v. 18 only if he is fully God, inasmuch as the whole universe is embraced in the authority delegated to him. And yet he is still in some sense distinct from his Heavenly Father, so that Matthew can use the divine passive in speaking of his having ‘been given’ this authority. Clear allusions to the heavenly Son of Man figure of Dan. 7:13-14 appear here. Christ’s exaltation, as the result of his resurrection, means that one day ‘every knee’ will bow and ‘every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord’ (Phil. 2:9-11), whether or not they do so voluntarily as part of his redeemed people. Because of this authority, Jesus has the right to issue his followers their ‘marching orders,’ but he also has the ability to help them carry out those orders.”<sup>5</sup>

—Craig L. Blomberg



## Voices from Church History

“The gospel is only good news if it gets there in time.”<sup>6</sup>

—Carl F. H. Henry (1913-2003)

## 99 Essential Christian Doctrines

### 85. Mission of the Church

The church is a sign and instrument of the kingdom of God, a people united by faith in the gospel announcement of the crucified and risen King Jesus. The mission of the church is to go into the world in the power of the Spirit and make disciples by proclaiming this gospel, calling people to respond in ongoing repentance and faith, and demonstrating the truth and power of the gospel by living under the lordship of Christ for the glory of God and the good of the world.

It was as important for Jesus’ disciples to understand His preeminence over all things as it is for us to understand it today. The reality of His power and authority didn’t end with His resurrection or ascension, nor at the writing of the biblical text. His kingdom and His authority are eternal. So when Jesus begins this commission with the statement of His authority and then says “Go therefore,” this means that the power that raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him by the throne of grace is the same power available to us to live out this call to go and make disciples of all nations.

The disciples were instructed to go (Matt. 28:19). This was not a suggestion; Jesus wasn’t telling the disciples that *maybe* they should go or go *if they could squeeze it in*. No, Jesus used an imperative, a command, an order to be obeyed. Jesus, the risen King, commanded them to go.

“Go” in this passage is a verb that means to travel or journey, and the disciples were expected to obey. Our temptation and theirs as well would be to wait, but in essence, Jesus said, “Now that you’ve heard of My authority and seen My power, even over death, go out into the world and let others know of this good news for the forgiveness of sins.

But where do we go?

Since Jesus has authority over all the earth, He therefore commands the disciples to go to all nations. Every tribe, tongue, and nation is under the authority of Jesus, even if they have yet to submit their lives to Him. After all, we have been told that one day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord at the mention of His name (Phil. 2:10-11). So, we go.

For the disciples, going would mean being scattered among the peoples and nations of the world, and for many of us, it means the same. There’s a call here for a multi-ethnic, cross-cultural focus of missionaries that may require leaving home and the known and heading into foreign lands of the unknown. But the Lord doesn’t tell us here exactly where to go. He didn’t demand that we all leave home; He simply said to go and make disciples of all nations.

So, are we to go to a foreign land or to our neighbor across the street? He didn’t say. But we do know that the call to make disciples is a call to action. And there’s no mistake that Jesus would say “all nations.” *All* encompasses *every* place on this earth. Jesus wants no stone unturned, no land to be barren of His name. His desire is for the gospel to be proclaimed to the ends of the earth.



What places have you gone to in order to share the gospel and make disciples?	What places are on your heart to go to with the good news of Jesus?
How can your group/church work together and support one another in this shared mission to go and make disciples of all nations?	



### Voices from Church History

“God hath work to do in this world; and to desert it because of its difficulties and entanglements, is to cast off his authority. It is not enough that we be just, that we be righteous, and walk with God in holiness; but we must also serve our generation, as David did before he fell asleep. God hath a work to do; and not to help him is to oppose Him.”<sup>7</sup>

—John Owen (1616-1683)

The disciples were commanded to go and make other disciples. By its biblical definition, a *disciple* is a follower of Jesus, someone who learns from Him in order to live like Him. So, these followers of Jesus were to go and find other people to become followers of Jesus.

It’s important to remember that salvation belongs to the Lord, and only He can save, but we play a wonderful part in this salvation by sharing the gospel. As the Bible says, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ” (Rom. 10:17). We, as disciples of Jesus, are to make more disciples of Jesus by proclaiming the good news of the risen King to others.

Our confidence is not in ourselves, and our message is not about ourselves. But we can go with confidence because we are proclaiming the risen King. We go with and by His authority.

Our temptation not to share is often rooted in fear: What should I say? What if they won’t accept me? How will I look in their eyes? What if the response is violence? But when *Jesus* is the focus and the message, we can rest from our fear. We don’t need to fear human beings because, as Jesus instructed: “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matt. 10:28). This One whom we are to fear (respectfully, as in “the fear of the LORD”) gave Jesus all authority in heaven and on earth, and by believing in Him, we are saved from hell and for heaven. So with our final destination assured, what have we to fear?



What are some ways we can unintentionally make the message of the gospel about us instead of about Jesus?

## Voices from the Church

“The church is sent on mission by Jesus. It’s not that the church has a mission, but rather that the mission has a church. We join Jesus on His mission.”<sup>8</sup>

—Ed Stetzer

## Further Commentary

“Jesus instructed us not only to teach content, but to train people into obedient action: teaching them to keep everything I have commanded you. The teachings of Jesus recorded in Matthew are the essence of the practical teaching we are to pass on to new disciples. There is much more teaching from Scripture beyond Matthew that the church needs. But his teaching in Matthew serves as a strong foundation. By fulfilling the teaching portion of the Great Commission, we take believers at every stage of spiritual maturity to the next stage of growth. This can range from the infancy of a brand-new believer to various levels of spiritual adulthood. Every believer should progress toward the perfect character of Christ (Eph. 4:11-16), but none will arrive there short of eternity. So we must see ourselves as learners in a family of teachers, who themselves are also learners. The believer who is most mature will be most ready to listen and learn, even from the newest member of the family (cf. Matt. 18:4).”<sup>9</sup>

—Stuart K. Weber

Once we have proclaimed the good news to all people, and once they have placed their faith and trust in the finished work of Jesus on the cross, then Jesus commands us to baptize these new disciples in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Peter, as recorded in the Book of Acts, obeyed this command. Preaching to the crowds in Jerusalem, Peter said, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). Repentance and faith come before baptism. Baptism is the faithful display of that saving work of Jesus. It is a proclamation of the work that has been done in the believer’s heart, which screams to an unbelieving world that Hope has come. It is an outward sign of the inward transformation of the believer—a move from death (to sins) to life (in Jesus).

Baptism is also a part of the normal, everyday call of the Christian mission. In other words, just as evangelism or disciple-making is a part of the call to mission, so is baptism. Baptism does not save; it does not wash away your sins—only the blood of Jesus can do that. But baptism is an important aspect of our Christian witness. Being baptized in faith publicly proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ to a watching world.



How might we unintentionally downplay the importance of baptism as a part of the Great Commission?

### 3. Teach people to obey all Christ has commanded (Matt. 28:20).

<sup>20</sup> *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*”

Jesus commanded the disciples to go, to act—preaching the gospel to all nations and baptizing believers in the name of our trinitarian God. But we see in Matthew 28:20 that this isn’t the end of the work. Once again, Jesus didn’t shy away from the use of the word “all.” Jesus told the disciples that they were to teach the believers of the gospel all the things Jesus had commanded them so they could, in turn, obey their Savior. On their own, this would be another daunting task, but we know that Jesus has given them this instruction in light of His own authority and power. And it is a daunting task for you and me as well, but God has given us His authoritative Word.

Baptism is a faith-filled proclamation of the finished work of Jesus in a believer’s life, and obedience is the evidence of it. Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15). Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, and necessarily leads to obedience to our Savior. But if faith comes by hearing, why would we stop teaching once a person has believed?

That's why the Great Commission isn't solely about evangelism; it's about discipleship as well. God promises to finish the good work He begins (Phil. 1:6), and He instructs us to participate in that work through learning about and obeying Him. Christians are further instructed to disciple the disciple, and as we see in Matthew 28, no one is exempt from teaching others. We are all called to go and disciple believers in Christ.

At the conclusion of His instructions and commands, Jesus lovingly reminded the disciples (and us) that they will not be alone in their mission: "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." What began with a declaration of His power and authority ends with the declaration of His faithful presence even to the end of time and then forevermore.

There is eternal significance in our mission because there are both eternal consequences and great eternal rewards. Jesus, the resurrected King, is interceding for us right now, and when we see Him face-to-face, we will be joined together with those believers with whom we shared the gospel and with those believers whom we have never met. Every tribe, tongue, and nation will join together to celebrate and worship with the King who will never leave us nor forsake us.

 How have you experienced being discipled by another in your own life?

## Conclusion

Like most people, we get busy with life and busy with schedules, and our busyness can lead us to forget our ultimate mission. We have a great treasure in the gospel. We have the best and only news this world needs. We also have been given the power to share it by the grace of God through His Holy Spirit, the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to be with us always. Let's ask God for opportunities to go and make disciples of all nations, and let us pray for our faithfulness and boldness as we share about our risen King—Jesus Christ.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Before Jesus ascended to the Father, He commissioned His disciples to go into the world and make disciples of all nations. Under the authority of Jesus, we make disciples by baptizing people in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and by teaching them everything Christ commanded us. As we go, we trust in the presence of Christ, who promises to be with us on mission.

### Voices from the Church

"Making disciples is far more than a program. It is the mission of our lives. It defines us. A disciple is a disciple maker."<sup>10</sup>

—Francis Chan

### Voices from the Church

"Evangelism and discipleship are two oars attached to the same boat. With only one oar in the water, you will row in a circle. Both oars are required to navigate in a straight line to reach your destination. We need evangelism and we need discipleship to carry out the Great Commission. The gospel is received through evangelism and then lived out through ongoing discipleship."<sup>11</sup>

—Robby Gallaty

### Voices from the Church

"Be encouraged, follower of Christ, for this mission is not based on who we are or what we can do. This mission is assured based on Christ's presence through His Spirit...Rather than being based on what we can do, this mission is based on who Jesus is and what He is able to do in and through our lives."<sup>12</sup>

—David Platt

## Additional Resources

# The Risen King's Commission

## References

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Grow with other group leaders at the Group Ministry blog at [LifeWay.com/GroupMinistry](http://LifeWay.com/GroupMinistry).

## Study Material

- "Jesus' Post-Resurrection Appearances and Ascension"—Episode 11, Act 2 from *Telling God's Story* by Preben Vang and Terry G. Carter
- "Aspiring to the Great Commission Is Not Enough: Knowing the Gospel Doesn't Mean We're Sharing It"—Blog post by Ed Stetzer; find a link to this blog post at [GospelProject.com/AdditionalResources](http://GospelProject.com/AdditionalResources)
- Previous *Biblical Illustrator* articles, including "To Make Disciples," can be purchased, along with other articles for this quarter, at [LifeWay.com/BiblicalIllustrator](http://LifeWay.com/BiblicalIllustrator). Look for Bundles: The Gospel Project.

## Sermon Podcast

H. B. Charles: "The Marching Orders of the Church—Matthew 28:16-20"

Find a link to this at [GospelProject.com/AdditionalResources](http://GospelProject.com/AdditionalResources)

## Tip of the Week

### Regularly Engage in Missions/Ministry

What is the last project your group did together outside of the group time? Remember that Jesus led the disciples to minister in the community. Work with your group to plan projects that you can do together in an effort to reach out to the lost and hurting. Your group cannot be "doers of the word" by isolating themselves inside a classroom for one hour each week. Remind your group that Jesus commands believers to "go."<sup>13</sup>

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