

# **The Great Commission**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. The twin foundations stones of Evangelicalism are the Person of Jesus and the Bible.
- B. Two great ideas: the Great Commission and multiplying laborers.
  - 1. The primary objective of the Navigators is to help fulfill the Great Commission.
  - 2. Fulfilling means recognizing the Great Commission as being given to the entire body of Christ in which the Navigators must relate harmoniously.
  - 3. The Great Commission is revealing reconciliation to Christ and the life of obedience revealed though the Scriptures.

## II. The Great Commission.

### A. John 20:19.

- 1. The distinctive: the sending of the disciples as the Father sent Christ.
- 2. One of the basic points is the life of the witness.
- 3. Also pressed is peace that vantages fear and doubt.

### B. Matthew 28.

- 1. The distinctive: making disciples.
- 2. The end result should be followers of Jesus Christ.

### C. Luke 24:42.

- 1. The distinctive: the message of repentance.

### D. Acts 1:6.

- 1. The distinctive: the witness, the power and the place.

### E. Summarizing the Great Commission.

- 1. The Great Commission cannot be fulfilled in one lifetime.
- 2. The two aspects of the Great Commission are to win the lost and build up the saved.
  - a. You can get the gospel to all creation in one generation.

- b. You cannot make all nations disciples in one generation.
3. We win the lost by all means. (1 Corinthians 9)
    - a. This includes the bridge, the four spiritual laws, etc.
    - b. Whenever one gets to the place where he feels he has found the definitive method, he gets himself in trouble.
    - c. Methods are useful things for a person to change and adapt to his own experience and personality.
  4. Small groups are the heart of disciple building.
  5. In training, man-to-man becomes very significant.
  6. The goal is to extend this kind of work to the whole world.

F. Discussion.

1. The aim of the Navigators is not limited to a people group and the representatives are key to the staff.
2. A goal is to better build discipling into the believer's context of life.
3. Acts 6 and Romans 16 are other outstanding passages speaking on the Great Commission.

G. The nature of the mission to fulfill the Great Commission.

1. There should be a reluctance to make extravagant goals for the Great Commission because disillusionment can follow not fulfilling these goals.
2. The principle of multiplication should be preached carefully because of this.
3. Those employing the principle may not ever fully know of the results. It is a team action - it is not just about one person.
4. All disciples ought to be actively seeking to influence others towards Christ. Whether this means all should be disciple makers is in debate.
5. You take the responsibility of your men, but you do not take on every task with them.

**Application questions**

1. What were the basic principles that arose from the different presentations of the Great Commission?

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2. Which presentation did you find most challenging? Why?

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3. How are you contributing to saving the lost and building up the save? What could you do better to refine your involvement?

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