

**Small Group Leaders:** This week we are focusing in on our missions. Take time to pray for our missionaries both local and global. You can pick up a brochure listing each one at our Global Ministry table if you choose. Pray also for our local ministries. Kids Club, Senior Living Centers, Homeless Shelter, Prison Ministry... and for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Pray special prayers for any individuals who may be on a special mission in their lives either locally or involved globally.

### **Small Group & Personal Bible Study**

#### **Memory Verse: Matthew 28:19**

“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 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

#### **Study Questions:**

#### **Read Matthew 28:18-20**

In verse 19, the Greek word for translated go is poreuō which implies that as you pursue the journey or as you follow. This may clarify your understanding of the great commission.

1. As you think about each phrase in the great commission, what is Jesus telling us to do? **I find this commission that as followers of Christ, we are called to make disciples, which I understand is to teach them about God and His word.**
2. Who do you think is to go (poreuō) according to this verse? Is Jesus talking to all disciples or just to the eleven? Does the Bible speak to all people or just those it was written too at the time? **I think it simply means that as I live as a disciple of Jesus, I should see my life as a mission. This is certainly not only for the eleven. If I take that stance then at what point do I determine that the Word of God is directed to me? Was Jesus talking to me when he said to go? When he told me to Love the Lord? Love my neighbor? The answer is yes, yes, yes!**
3. When we go, what are we to do? Can anyone make disciples? Can anyone baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Can anyone teach others to obey the commands of Jesus? **We are to share the truth, the Word of God. The truth about God, the truth about Jesus, the truth about salvation, the truth about life. We are to make disciples. I think it is God who does the work so therefore anyone who is following Christ has His power at work and is called to make disciples. Some may be called to use special gifts and called out to special mission fields but all are called to make disciples. The scriptures just tell us to do it. Baptism is a special thing but who can baptize? I think the only ingredient is how, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We choose to baptize at church as a body but baptisms can happen anywhere, anytime by those who understand and trust in the significance of baptism. Teaching obedience is more the words. It is action, rebuke, and correction. The word of God is power and active, sharper than any double edged sword and it will teach obedience.**
4. When we go, what promise do we have from Christ found in verse 20? **Without verse 20 we would all be in trouble. But like other passages in your daily reading, we have the promise of the power of the Spirit of Christ to be with us and work through us. We are not alone. EVER!**
5. Who is God placing in your heart right now as your mission field? Where are you called to go to? Are you willing to follow what Jesus has commissioned you for? **Let people share and pray for one another.**

If time allows, or as a completely different option, you may choose to read each of the commissions found in the daily reading passages below along with Matthew 28:18-20 and come to some conclusions about the commission from Jesus Christ. These are all great passages and each brings a unique lesson from Christ. Let the Holy Spirit speak through these words.

#### **Daily Reading Schedule: (The Commission from Jesus Christ)**

- Day 1 Mark 16:15-20
- Day 2 Luke 10:1-12
- Day 3 Luke 24:45-49
- Day 4 John 20:19-22
- Day 5 Acts 1:1-11