

Lesson 3: THE GREAT COMMISSION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: (Help people discover these points – if the principles are not emerging in group discussion, ask questions to bring these out – do not “lecture” to them)

- Being obedient to the Great Commission is our responsibility (all disciples)
- We are supposed to disciple *ethne* (ethnic groups) not just individuals
- The process of making disciples starts before baptism (conversion)
- We need to teach disciples to obey all that Jesus commanded

1) Review previous lesson:

➤ Individually

- Write the **Top 3 Lessons** from last time.

➤ Small Groups (If you have more than 6-7 people split in small groups)

- Review **memory verses**.
- Discuss and agree as a group on your group’s **Top 3 Lessons** from last time.
- Discuss how you **obeyed** Scripture (concepts / principles).
- **Pray** for each other that we will obey the Great Commandment.

➤ In the large group

- Review key lessons learned
- Write responses up on the whiteboard or a flipchart – after you have written all/most of the key lessons ask if there are any key lessons still not listed.
- Discuss “Shema” idea vs. proclamational “evangelism”. Ask people to share experiences. Role play Shema actions and statements if many people were not able to do it.
- Review next meeting time and expectations for attending this work-shop.

2) Review the **Training Invitation** from Week 1 and discuss (How is it going?)

1. **Forget** - lay aside extra-Biblical traditions (Christian, denominational, cultural)
2. **Focus** only on God's Word – what can we learn about principles and practice?
3. **Pray** more
4. **Go** out among the lost and try to live out these principles in your context
5. **Visioncast** to others about making multiplying disciples.
6. **Train** believers – teach others what you learn from these lessons and model doing it
7. **Stay connected** - pray for each other, learn from each other, and stay accountable

3) **Discovery Bible Study (DBS): MATTHEW 28:16-20 (Great Commission)**

Use “RRO” (Read/Retell/Obey) Oral Version for this passage. Do not write it out but have groups either draw pictures of create hand motions....

When groups are finished share some examples of the groups’ drawings or hand motions

Elicit learning objectives from the group, helping everybody participate, using questions:

- What exactly did Jesus command in the Great Commission? How would you succinctly summarize this whole passage in just a few words (3-5 words max)?
- Who is supposed to obey these commands? Just pastors? Just missionaries? Or all followers of Jesus? (If all, how can you prove that from this passage alone?) Why is this important in DMMs?

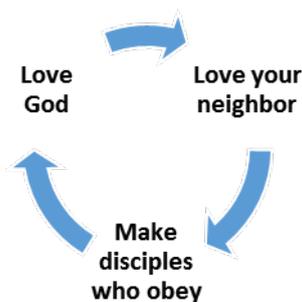
- In these verses, who was Jesus telling his followers to disciple? What would we have to do differently to disciple an *ethne*, not just individuals? At that time, all Jesus' followers were Jews. How did the Jews feel about other people groups?
- How did Jesus make disciples? How long did he take? [Refer back to their notes from the Luke self-study.] Contrast your answers with how we normally make disciples in the church today.
- Notice that making disciples is mentioned *before* baptism. What's the advantage of baptizing someone *after* they are discipled but *before* they are taught to obey everything Jesus commanded? Traditionally, which comes first: discipling or baptism? How could we disciple before conversion and baptism?
- What is the difference between teaching them all Jesus commanded vs. teaching them *to obey* all I have commanded? What's the best way to teach obedience?

In small groups, go BACK to Matthew 28:16-20 and discuss...

- How are you going?
- How are you making disciples? Discipling ethne?
- Who are you baptizing?
- How are you teaching them to obey all Jesus' commands?

Exercise: The Great Commandment and the Great Commission

Draw the following diagram and discuss it. How do these principles fit together?



Summary - Go back over the "I will" statements – help them really strengthen these and be specific – try to help them make some statements they can do in the next 48 hours. Give them a few minutes to pray, think and write.

4) Game: "Simon Says"

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask someone energetic to lead one round of standard "Simon Says" • Then explain you will now play a variation on that game: "Jesus says". Play it the same way as normal, but if people do things that are not preceded by the words, "Jesus says" have them sit down. Some ideas to have them do: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shake hands with someone ○ Hug someone ○ Tell someone you love them | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kneel & pray ○ Open your Bibles ○ Find Matthew 28:18-20 (or some other verse) ○ Say: "Would you like to pray with me about that?" (or other Shema statements) ○ Say: "Would you and your friends and family like to learn more about these things straight from God's Word?" ○ Go (out of the room)! ○ Raise your hands in prayer ○ Keep going (around the room) ○ Shout: Hallelujah! ○ Say last week's memory verse ○ Pretend to baptize someone |
|--|---|

- Every now and then say “Stop” or other commands not preceded by “The Lord says”. Also say, “I say...” and “The Pastor says...” and “The Teacher says...” in order to try to confuse them/get them to obey anyone else than “the Lord”.
- **Discussion:** After someone wins or the group gets bored, **discuss lessons learned in small groups.**

THE MAIN POINT is to learn to listen to *The Lord* and obey Him. Ask why is this important in Disciple-Making? (We are making Disciples of Jesus, not ourselves. We don’t prescribe applications. We know we’re not always right.

Some work until the next training session:

Memorize: Matthew 28:18-20 (And review earlier verses.)

Prayerwork: Read Acts 19:8-10. Add this thought each day to your prayer time to ask that God would do this among the ethnic groups in your city and region.

Fieldwork: Tell the trainees that one of the main goals is to share what we are learning.

- Keep trying to do Shema statements each day. At least one per day.
- Also, this week, do at least three “**3-minute Bible studies**” (see examples below). Do at least 2 with followers of Jesus and 2 with people who are not yet followers.

Say: “I learned something from God this morning”.

OR

Say: “I learned that...” (something from your Quiet Time or church experience)

If they’re interested...

Say: “I wonder what your family and friends would think about that? Let’s talk again sometime and you can tell me what they say.”

- If they are interested: in general, try to do your fieldwork with GROUPS, not individuals. This enables us to “work smarter”. If you find people who are interested in talking more, don’t “dump the truck”. Instead, give them a little more. If they’re still interested, ask them if they and their friends & family would be interested in learning more directly from God’s Word (“It’s not *me* that’s so great, it’s His Word”).

Bible Reading: If you’ve finished Luke, read Acts and make notes of how the early believers followed Jesus’ patterns of evangelism and discipleship.

Hand Gesture: Ask how could you summarize the main teaching of this lesson with a body movement or hand gesture? Have all participants stand up and do the gesture together. (Example for Lesson 3 – Stand in position of relay race as if you’re passing a baton to another runner.) Now do all the gestures in order for all the lessons so far starting with lesson 1.