

# *As We Go*

## *“Sent with Great Authority”*

### PREPARATION

- Familiarize yourself with this Study Guide.
- If you missed it, watch the sermon online [HERE](#).
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- As a leader you **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or prepare your own questions.
- Review the learning objective to focus the conversation, read the primary scriptures as a group, summarize the main points, ask the questions, and use supporting texts to enhance the concepts.

### DISCUSSION

**Opening Prayer:** (1-5 minutes)

*In light of what God is saying through this week’s message, here’s some suggestions of how your group can invite God into your time together.*

Thank the Lord for his ultimate authority as king over heaven and earth! Pray that the Holy Spirit would soften our hearts to the commandment Jesus has given us to go and make disciples in our community. Finally, thank our Father for sending the Holy Spirit to be with us intimately as we go until the end of the age!

**Discussion:** (30 minutes)

#### What’s Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Danny led us into the first week of our new series titled *As We Go*. Pastor Danny focused our attention on the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20. Specifically, Danny drew our attention to the word *Therefore* in order to challenge us to think about what is broken in our hearts when we ignore the good commands of Jesus. Then, he reminds the church to focus on how Jesus is with us carrying all the authority in heaven and earth at his disposal.

**“You will start making progress in your journey of disciple-making when you begin to view it as a partnership with Jesus.” – Mark Twain**

## Suggested Questions

**Check-In:** *Focus on Matthew 28:18-20* – Our new series will focus on some key words in the Great Commission. Before we get into the study guide, share with your group one instance where you engaged in the Great Commission and how it transformed your walk with Jesus. Additionally, how do you believe these scriptures could potentially play out in your life?

**Study Tip:** Our key text this series was written to close out the gospel according to Matthew. It is commonly accepted among scholars that the book of Matthew was written around 50 A.D. specifically to a Jewish audience. Matthew attempts to convince the Jews that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah by providing a genealogy linking Jesus to Abraham and David (Matt. 1) as well as alluding to 129 fulfilled prophecies. As we focus on the end of Matthew, keep in mind that Israel was always awaiting a king from the line of David (2 Sam 7:1-17) who would be named Immanuel (Is. 7:14) meaning “God with us”! With this in mind, think about how the Great Commission points to Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah what it means to live under the rule of Immanuel and His kingdom!

- **Objective #1: Identify everyone’s initial perception of the Great Commission**

*Primary Texts: Matthew 4:18-20, 9:35-10:8, 28:19-20a* – Pastor Danny begins his sermon by pointing to pastor Rajatha’s farming analogy. In this analogy, one fully becomes a farmer when he or she engages in the farming process season by season and year by year. In the same way, one fully becomes a disciple of Jesus when his or her faith is being reproduced in others. What is your reaction to these scriptures and what does your reaction to the farming analogy tell you about your own discipleship journey?

*Supporting Texts:* (Multiplying Faith) Gen. 12:1-3, Lk. 24:45-49, Jn. 15:16, Acts 1:8, Rom. 10:14-15, Rev. 7:9-12.

- **Objective #2: Explore the implications / misunderstandings of Jesus’ authority in our lives.**

*Primary Texts –Matthew 9:1-8, 28:18; Philippians 2:1-10, Hebrews 1:1-2:4* – Next, Pastor Danny looks at the word *Therefore* and points out that this word alludes to the authority that Jesus was given over all of heaven and earth. Using the analogy of his son refusing to eat his quesadilla, Pastor Danny highlights our hostile reactions towards the Great Commission when we have an authoritarian view of God. What are the ways that you may have misunderstood the concept of Jesus’ authority in your life? What are some of the positive ramifications that these scriptures point to in terms of Jesus’ authority?

*Supporting Texts:* (Authority of Jesus) Dan. 7:13-14, Jn. 3:35-36, 17:1-5, Eph. 1:15-23, Col. 2:6-10, Rev. 5:1-14,

- **Objective #3: Apply the Great Commission in light of God’s authority and presence in us.**

*Primary Texts – Matthew 1:18-23, 28:20b, Psalm 23:1-6 Romans 8:31-39:* Finally, Pastor Danny focusses our attention on the closing statement of the Great Commission in order to encourage the church to walk intimately with God as we experience the unlimited power of Jesus at our disposal when we engage with the Great Commission. How can we pray for courage this week as you boldly step into the Great Commission as God is with you?

*Supporting Texts –* Josh 1:1-9; Is. 41:1-20; Jn. 14:16-17, 17:1-26; Rev. 21:1-8

## **Closing Prayer: (5-15 minutes)**

*In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.*

Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for our sins and reigning over all of heaven and earth! Thank the Holy Spirit for dwelling in us as we go into our community to share the Love of Jesus! Finally, pray that the eyes of our hearts would be open to those who need the gospel around us and remind us that we have the Spirit of boldness in us not of timidity!

## **THROUGHOUT THE WEEK**

**-Further Reading and Exploration!** *Read Acts 1-12:* If you want to see how the disciples followed through on the Great Commission, the book of Acts is for you! As you read this exciting segment of scripture pay special attention to the human emotions that flow through the disciples as they try and figure out how to fulfill Jesus' command to them. Additionally, follow the traces of the Holy Spirit and watch for everything that he is doing to spread the gospel of Jesus in the early church!

**- Find out how to pray for two people in your group this week!** Pray that they would continue to find new ways to experience God's grace as they remember that God has decided to move His will forward through their humility!

**- Sign-Ups for the New Community Group Season begin January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020!** If you have any questions, feel free to email AJ at [avanegas@3crosses.org](mailto:avanegas@3crosses.org)