

Section 12: Making Disciples: *Baptizing (Expansion of the Kingdom)*

✚ Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Note: This passage of Scripture has been given the name "The Great Commission". It has this name because Jesus here is ordaining the church (all believers) to carry out a mission. This mission is the great mission of every follower of Jesus Christ. Every follower of Jesus Christ has the mission of making other disciples.

- 1) According to the Scripture passage above, what is the first thing the believer is commanded to do?
- 2) As a believer goes out to share the good news, what is the first thing that should be done to the new disciple who puts their faith in Jesus?

Note: Just as you have been baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins, you will baptize others who profess faith in Jesus Christ. Remember, this is a public declaration and should therefore be done in the presence of others.

Below we can learn from Jesus' plan for proclaiming the Good News in **Luke 10**.

- ✚ 1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.
 - ⇒ Go with another person to share the good news with those you do not know.
- ✚ 2 He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.
 - ⇒ As you are going keep in mind that the harvest is plentiful. This means that there are many people who God has ripened for salvation. He will take you to them and use you to lead them to salvation.
- ✚ 3 Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.
 - ⇒ Some people will not want to hear the news that you have and may want to hurt you.
- ✚ 4 Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.
 - ⇒ Do not be distracted along the way. Stay focused on your mission.
- ✚ 5 "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' 6 If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. 7 Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house..... 9tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'
 - ⇒ Share the peace of God with people. If this is a person whom God has prepared he or she will receive your peace and listen to your message. Stay and spend time with this person. Spend the majority of your time with receptive people rather than non-receptive people.
- ✚ 10 But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 11 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.'
 - ⇒ If a person is not receptive, remind him or her that the kingdom is near but then move on. Do not spend time with those who are not receptive.

3) Why does God tell us to go and share this News? (What is the desire of God?)

- 4) As we go out to share with our family, friends and those we do not know circle the things that will happen.

✓ People put their faith in Jesus	✓ New communities of believers (churches) start
✓ New believers are baptized	✓ God is glorified

