

# THE GREAT COMMISSION

## Session 5

*“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age’” (Matthew 28:18-20).*

### I. We are to be disciple-makers for Christ.

- a. Christ’s ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20)
- b. fragrant aroma (2 Corinthians 2:14-15)
- c. Our Goal: Be fruitful at every stage of life, which is why the church was left on earth.

If that were not so, Jesus would take us home immediately following our conversion, our wedding ceremony, or right after our first, second, or third (you get the picture) child was born. Or maybe after our kids finally leave home!

So how does the Great Commission apply to the phase of life you are in or will be entering into?

### II. Working together in ministry gives a marriage purpose and will preserve the marriage.

- a. There is power in purpose. Relationships fade without purpose.
  - i. The Great Commission will sanctify your marriage and give it an eternal purpose.
  - ii. We need a purpose bigger than our marriage to have a marriage survive.
    1. Divorce: Doesn’t seem to be a difference between Christians and unbelievers (26-33 percent) according to The Barna Group.
    2. GCAC couples: Only two percent have ended in divorce!
- b. We receive blessings and rewards by sharing the Gospel.
  - i. Your faith in God and intimacy with Him increases.
    1. Philemon 1:6
  - ii. You are used by God to change the eternal destiny of people.

### III. How do we begin?

- a. Stay committed to each other and share a common purpose
  - i. Great Commission focus.
- b. Learn how to share the Gospel.
  - ii. Outreach class starts in June — take it together!
  - iii. Diagram DVD
  - iv. Way of the Master
- c. Raise Godly offspring!
  - v. Proverbs — live it and teach it to your kids
  - vi. Your marriage is the example for your kids
    1. Do what you teach: show them how.
    2. Avoid the pastor’s kid syndrome.

A mainstream Christian denomination recently conducted an internal survey and found that it is losing 90 percent of their youth. Let this NOT be so with your children.

- d. Be active in a house church and/or small group!
  - vii. Learn from others.
  - viii. Be involved in helping others.
  
- e. Show hospitality.
  - ix. Get to know other Christians.
  - x. Get involved in some kind of outreach with an evangelistic focus.
  - xi. Be “neighborhood missionaries.”
  
- f. Go on mission trips.
  - xii. Practice now to be more fruitful then.
  
- g. Serve joyfully at The Rock.
  - xiii. Jesus set the example: He served others, and it gave Him opportunities to speak into their lives.
  - xiv. greeting, Connections, Blue Lounge, children’s ministry, coffee, etc.

Do not be overwhelmed.

Pray and ask God to show you as a couple where to begin and start there.

#### **IV. Questions and answers**