

# YOU NEED BIBLICAL MISSION

**MATTHEW 28:18-20; ACTS 1:8**

**CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE – NOVEMBER 6, 2022**

## BIBLICAL MISSION

(From [\*12 Traits of a Biblical Church\*](#))

A church is characterized by biblical mission. Global mission is not a compartmentalized program in the church for a select few people who are called to it. The local church exists for the accomplishment of global mission. God has organized the church not only to share the Gospel and make disciples locally, but it is also organized and actively involved in taking the Gospel to the nations. Therefore, we all pray, give, and go right where we live and wherever God leads for the spread of God's praise among all the peoples of the world. As every member of the church walks in obedience to the Great Commission, He leads some members to go short-term, mid-term, and long-term to other places, particularly among people where the gospel has not yet gone. MBC gladly sends out her members to make disciples and multiply churches across Washington, D.C., and around the world in anticipation of the day when every nation, tribe, and tongue will gather around God's throne and sing His praise for His salvation. This is the aim for which Jesus died, and this is the aim for which we live.

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Matthew 28:18-20 ESV**

*18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**Acts 1:8 ESV**

*8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*

## SERMON RECAP

You Need Biblical Mission

- To be a Christian is to live to see disciples made in all nations.
- We need a church that is working to make disciples of all nations.
- We must start right where we live:
  1. Pray for the spread of the gospel to all nations, particularly the unreached.
  2. Give for the spread of the gospel to all nations, particularly the unreached.
  3. Go and spread the gospel to all nations, particularly the unreached.
- And, we must continue living to spread the gospel wherever God leads us.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**What does the passage say?**

1. Read these passages aloud as a group and take some time to let group members share observations about them. Try not to move into interpretation of the passages or application of what you have read quite yet. Simply share what you observe.
  - To whom did Jesus come, and what strikes you about what He said? (Matt 28:18)
  - Where did Jesus say to go and what did He say to do? (Matt 28:19-20)
  - What power did Jesus leave us and what task did He leave us to do? (Acts 1:8)

- Summarize these two passages in your own words.

### ***What does the passage mean?***

1. Jesus has authority over all. (Matt 28:18; Eph 4:6)
  - What does it mean that Jesus has “all authority in heaven and on earth?”
  - How does Jesus display God’s authority? (See Phil 2:3-8)
  - Why is Jesus authorized to have dominion over all? (See Isa 45:22-23; Phil 2:9-11)
2. Disciples go confidently under Jesus’ authority. (Matt 28:19; Rom 8:28)
  - What does it really mean to be a disciple? (See Mark 8:34-35; Luke 11:28; John 15:14)
  - Why do disciples make disciples? (See Mark 16:15; Rom 10:13-15)
  - What is/are the chief aim(s) of disciples? (See Matt 13:44)
3. God’s Word authorizes Jesus’ commands. (Matt 28:20; Matt 24:35; 2 Tim 3:16-17)
  - Review Scripture in the appendix “Passages on All Nations.” How is God glorified, for all time, by His desire for the nations to come to Him and be saved?
  - Disciples teach – How can disciples teach obedience? (See John 14:15; 2 John 1:6)
  - What does it suggest that Jesus’ last words to His disciples were a commission? (2 Tim 2:1-2)

## **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

### ***How can we apply this passage to our lives?***

1. Pray for the spread of the gospel.
  - What can we pray for disciples in all nations? Pray now.
  - What can we pray for us to be a disciple-making church locally and globally? Pray now.
  - How should you pray to submit anew to God’s work and mission in the world? Pray now.
2. Give for the spread of the gospel.
  - How can you as an individual; we as a family; and we as a Church Group give to support disciple-making locally and globally?
  - What can you/we give of our time, talent, and treasure to support the Great Commission? (See Acts 2:45)
3. Go to spread the gospel.
  - Where do you sense God may be leading you to go locally, for His glory, in your neighborhood, workplace, town, or the DMV?
  - Where might God be prompting you to press into and to spread the gospel globally by serving on short-, mid-, or long-term missionary opportunities?
  - Who can you tell and who must you contact to

## **LEADER NOTES**

### ***Church Group Leaders, please share the following information with your Church Group:***

1. Visit the [Global Outreach Weekly Prayer Focus](#) each week to learn about an unreached region of world and the ways we can join together in prayer for them. You can see the full 2022 Global Outreach Prayer Guide [HERE](#).

# “ALL NATIONS” – A THEME WOVEN THROUGH THE ENTIRE BIBLE

In each of the following passages, underline or circle any reference to God’s desire to see all nations knowing and glorifying Him. Please note that this is not an all-inclusive list.

**Genesis 12:1-3** - Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

**Genesis 18:17-18** - The Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, 18 seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?”

**Genesis 22:17-18** - I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

**Genesis 26:4** - I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed,

**Genesis 28:14** - Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

**Exodus 9:16** - But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth.

**Joshua 4:23-24** - For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you passed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we passed over, 24 so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever.”

**1 Chronicles 16:23-24** - Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day. 24 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

**2 Chronicles 6:32-33** - Likewise, when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a far country for the sake of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm, when he comes and prays toward this house, 33 hear from heaven your dwelling place and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to you, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and that they may know that this house that I have built is called by your name.

**Psalms 2:7-8** - I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

**Psalms 22:27-28** - All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. 28 For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

**Psalms 46:10** - “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

## **Psalms 67**

May God be gracious to us and bless us

and make his face to shine upon us, Selah

2 that your way may be known on earth,

your saving power among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you!  
4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth. Selah  
5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!  
6 The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.  
7 God shall bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

**Isaiah 2:2-3** - *It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, 3 and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.*

**Isaiah 52:10** - *The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

**Isaiah 66:18-19** - *"For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, 19 and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations.*

**Ezekiel 36:22-23** - *"Therefore say to the house of Israel, thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. 23 And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.*

**Daniel 7:13-14** - *"I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. 14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.*

**Zephaniah 2:10-11** - *This shall be their lot in return for their pride, because they taunted and boasted against the people of the Lord of hosts. 11 The Lord will be awesome against them; for he will famish all the gods of the earth, and to him shall bow down, each in its place, all the lands of the nations.*

**Haggai 2:7** - *And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts.*

**Zechariah 8:20-23** - *"Thus says the Lord of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, even the inhabitants of many cities. 21 The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us go at once to entreat the favor of the Lord and to seek the Lord of hosts; I myself am going.' 22 Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the Lord. 23 Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'"*

**Malachi 3:12** - *Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.*

**Matthew 24:14** - *And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*

**Mark 11:17** - *And he was teaching them and saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.”*

**Luke 24:45-47** - *Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.*

**John 17:18** - *As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.*

**Acts 1:8** - *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

**Romans 16:25-27** - *Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— 27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.*

**Galatians 3:8** - *And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”*

**Revelation 7:9-10** - *After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”*

From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture is clear that God’s heart is that He receive the glory due His name from ALL nations, peoples, ethnicities, and languages.