

IMPACT 20 MILLION

MATTHEW 28:16-20

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE – FEBRUARY 22, 2026

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:16-20 (ESV)

The Great Commission

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 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.”

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

What is your core life’s mission? What motivations fundamentally direct your life-shaping decisions?

SERMON RECAP

The God who so loved the world that He gave His only Son so loved the world that He invited His whole church, including every single son and daughter in His family, to find life, and meaning, and purpose, and thrill, and otherworldly joy in following Jesus and making Him known among all the nations.

How can you play your part in God’s global purpose?

- By LEARNING about the nations
- By PRAYING for the nations
- By GOING among the nations
- By GIVING to the nations

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Observation: What does this passage say?

1. Read Matthew 28:16-20 aloud as a group. Before interpreting or applying the passage, share observations about it.
 - In this passage, who did Jesus address? (v. 16)
 - Where did this occasion take place (v. 16)
 - What was the audience’s reaction to Jesus when they saw him? (v. 17)
 - As Jesus addressed this audience (v. 18), what key points did He make? (vv. 18–20)
 - What invitations did He issue? (vv. 19–20a)
 - What precondition did He identify that enabled the fulfillment of these commands? (v. 18)
 - What was the sure and certain promise He gave to the hearers? (v. 20b)
2. How would you explain or summarize today’s passage in your own words?

Interpretation: What does the passage mean?

1. Of those gathered, what portion of Jesus’ audience did he address? (vv. 16–17)
2. What is the extent of Jesus’ authority? (v. 18)
3. What is the extent of the span into which he invites his disciples? (v. 19)
4. What is the extent of what Jesus’ disciples are to teach and share with others? (v. 20a)
5. What is the extent of the promise Jesus held out to his disciples? (v. 20b)
6. What limitations exist in this passage?

7. What stands out to you most as you read and consider today's passage?

Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?

1. What is the ultimate aim of your life? How closely does this aim align with the mission into which Jesus invites you in Matt 28:16-20?
2. Read Acts 11:19-23. Unnamed, scattered believers - accompanied by the hand of the Lord (Acts 11:21a; cf. Matt 28:20b) - preached Jesus in Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch. And a great number who believed turned to the Lord. In Acts 11:21, what (i.e., Who) led those who believed to turn (i.e., repent) to the Lord? Consider Isa 55:10-11 and John 6:44.
3. Read Acts 1:6-8, 9:17-19, Eph 5:15-18, and Col 1:9-14. Who and what are the sources of strength and power behind the believer's faithful walk and work? Who and what are the sources of strength and power behind your walk and work?
4. Who are the seemingly "hard to reach" people in your midst (e.g., at work, in school, at the store, at the gym)? What limits exist on the Lord's power to reach them? How might you accept His invitation to join in His work in this regard?
5. Please pray the following:
 - God, I am in. Use my life however You want with Your supernatural power for Your global purpose.
 - God, I am in. Save me from my sin through faith in Jesus and fill me with Your power for this purpose.