

SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH ANYONE, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

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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." Matthew 28:18-20

We praise God for the awesome response to our recently concluded Making Multiplying Disciples Seminar entitled "Vineworks for the Glory of God". Truly, it was a joy to see our dear ministry partners come to know, discern, and pray that we can all act on the opportunities the Lord has laid in our hearts to carry on the work of making disciples.

In the heart of God, He desires that all men be saved. In the Old Testament, He chose a small group of people, called them His own, and took care of them. In the fullness of time, He sent His son, Jesus, to save not only His own but to provide a way for all peoples that we may all be restored in our fellowship with the Father! Jesus took the cross to pay the penalty of all our sins, once and for all, so that we may all be saved.

Jesus has set the way for all men to come back to God and He has given those who believe in Him the task of moving forward to do

the work He has begun. He has fulfilled all the requirements for man to come back to God. Now, the ball is in our hands. Jesus has left us with a Great Command. The Great Command came with the authority, the means, and the promise that we need to complete it for the glory of God.

Salvation is Jesus' finished work on the cross that needs to be made known to all. That makes all of us 'witnesses' of Jesus! Yes, as disciples or followers of Jesus, this is part of what we have signed up for to obey Him—to take part in His work. And the greatest motivation every follower should have is our love and thanksgiving for what Jesus has done for us! Our love for Jesus should move us to take part in His work of making disciples. We should all go because we love Jesus.

The Great Command came with His authority. Jesus said in Matthew 28:18 that ALL authority has been given to Him by the Father. This authority is passed on or given to those who follow Him, including you and me. This truth tells us that we are commanded, rather than privileged, to do the work of God in reconciling people back to Him, not on our strength and power but by the Lord's. What a great privilege!

With that great authority came exactly the Great Work. We are commanded to MAKE DISCIPLES

of all people. "All peoples" may mean that we are to make Jesus known to anyone and everyone, both near and far. "Anyone" can be your husband, child, or friend. "Anyone" can be someone that the Lord has allowed you to sit beside on a long ride. When we heed the call to share the love of Jesus to anyone, one day the Gospel will be embraced by everyone. Praise God!

Jesus made it plain to His followers what they needed to do. They were commanded to teach people—to tell them about God, so they may believe (baptize) and obey all of His commands (including telling others about Him)! This section of the Great Command also tells us that our obedience truly matters in the sight of the Lord. Obey His Commands.

The work is vast. The command is compelling. The challenges are great, and Jesus knew all of these! And that is why He assures us of His awesome, abiding, and empowering presence as we do His work. As we all make disciples.

The work of making disciples is anchored in the Lord Himself. This is the will of the Father that Jesus came for and obeyed (John 17:1-4). This, too, is the work that we are to do and continue to do. Let us all make disciples. ✱