



Week 1: The Mission

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

To maintain a healthy group, focus on four key components: Word, prayer, relationships, and outreach. This guide will help you study a biblical passage through observation, interpretation, and application. As you explore Matthew 28:18-20, keep in mind this week's big idea: **in this house, we are disciples of Jesus who make disciples of Jesus.**

CONNECT

Ask this ice-breaker: "Share about a time when someone invested in you—maybe a mentor, teacher, or friend—and helped you grow in some area of life. What impact did that have on you?"

INTRODUCTION

Matthew 28:18-20, known as the Great Commission, captures Jesus' final instructions to His disciples after His resurrection. This passage forms the foundation for the church's mission, emphasizing that discipleship—repenting, believing, following Jesus, and helping others do the same—is central to the church's identity. As you study, ask God to speak to you about your next steps in growth as a disciple of Jesus who makes disciples of Jesus.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Matthew 28:18-20

- How does His resurrection authority empower us to fulfill the command to make disciples?
- What does this command say about the active, outward focus of Christianity, beyond just personal faith?

Read: Matthew 28:19

- What does baptism signify in the process of becoming a disciple?
- The mission extends to "all nations" (v. 19). How does this global vision challenge us to think beyond our local community or comfort zones?

Read: Matthew 28:20

- How does discipleship extend beyond the moment of conversion and baptism?
- How does the promise of Jesus' presence encourage us when making disciples feels daunting?

APPLICATION

Where are you on your discipleship journey, and what's your next step? Check out next steps in the discipleship process here: <https://www.aletheia.org/next-steps/>

The "go" command includes evangelism and full discipleship. How can you intentionally invest in someone this week to help them follow Jesus more closely? (Who is your one?)

PRAYER

Take a moment to pray for each other. Thank God for the authority and presence of Jesus in our mission. Pray for boldness to make disciples, wisdom to take next steps in growth, and opportunities to reach all nations with the gospel.