

The Disciple and the World

LeRoy Eims

I. Introduction.

II. The Great Commission is spoken of five times in the Bible always to eleven men.

A. Matthew 28:19-20 speaks to the quality of the ministry. The Great Commission is not about making converts—it is about discipleship. It takes a disciple to make one.

B. Mark 16:15 gives the quantitative aspect of it.

C. Matthew 24:45-47 gives the content of the message—repentance and forgiveness.

D. John 20:20-21 hints at the cost of the Great Commission.

1. Jesus always meets us at our point of need, and He gave them peace.

2. He has only promised that He will not leave us—not a rose garden.

E. Acts 1:8-9 tells the progress of it begins where you are.

III. Is accomplishing the Great Commission possible? The issue is not ability but willingness. (Acts 2:1, I Samuel 2:35)

A. John 3:16 is on God's heart, but how do we accomplish what is on His mind?

B. We reach a man by warning a man and then by teaching him in all wisdom. This process is then repeated for mass multiplication. (Colossians 1:28-29, II Timothy 2:2)

IV. The marks of discipleship.

A. Love. (John 14:34-35)

B. Continuing in the Word. (John 8:31)

C. Loving not the world. (I John 2:15-16)

D. Denying oneself. (Luke 9:23)

E. It is really living as Jesus did.

V. Why give oneself to the Commission?

A. Because Jesus said to.

B. Because the world desperately needs Jesus—we take for granted what Jesus did for our sins.

1. There is a person who can bring our needs—God meets our needs for peace in everything. (John 14:21, Isaiah 26:3, Romans 5:1)
2. To change society, we must change people and that requires the gospel.
3. When we get the Man right—we get the world right. (II Corinthians 5:17)
4. People know about God, but the gospel is a stranger in this world, and this is where we come in. (Romans 1)
5. Whatever it takes is not too much so long as we understand the world as it is.

C. You will not be bored with the Great Commission.

VI. It does not take much of a man to be a Christian—it takes all of him. The commitment must be to become a disciple-maker.

Application questions:

1. What kind of person does the Bible teach is required to accomplish the Great Commission? Explain.

2. Give a reason for giving yourself to the Great Commission and defend it biblically.

3. Memorize John 20:20-21 and write it below. What do these verses tell us about the Great Commission?
