

THE BIGGER PICTURE

AG

Series 1 Session 12

Understanding the Great Commission

**What is your
motivation for
evangelism?**

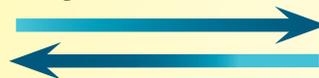


**Why do you care
about people
getting saved?**



**Get into groups and discuss how your
friends react to your faith.**

**How have you found talking to them
about your friendship with Jesus?**



Now take a look at these verses:

Genesis 6: 5-6

John 3: 16-17

1 Timothy 2: 3-4

2 Peter 3: 9-10

**What do they tell
you about God's
heart for those who
know him?**



**“People all over the world are in need of salvation; God
wants all of them to spend eternity with Him.”**

Matthew 28: 16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

This instruction of Jesus is known as the Great Commission. It's given to all followers of Jesus “to the very end of the age”. We're instructed to take the initiative, “go”, and help others become followers of Jesus; to “make disciples of all nations”, throughout the world.

However, it's important to realise that the Great Commission isn't simply about converting people, forgetting about them and moving on. We are called to "make disciples". The word "disciple" means "pupil" or "learner", so it is our calling as Christians to help people become life-long learners and followers of Jesus, just like us.

What does making disciples of Jesus involve?



Winning: Helping people become Christians by telling them about Jesus and modelling his love.

Building: Integrating people into the church and helping them follow Jesus as a way of life.

Sending: Involving, equipping and empowering others to reach the world for Christ.

Get back into groups and look at the following:

John 12: 24-25
1 Corinthians 2: 1-5
Colossians 4:2-6

What do we learn about carrying out the Great Commission?

“Through the Great Commission, it’s God’s plan for us to be involved in the process of people becoming disciples of Christ.”

We cannot control how people will respond to Jesus and it's important to remember that, at the end of the day, we cannot save people. God alone can do that. Our job is to share the message of Jesus and communicate his love and compassion. As we seek God and share with others, the Holy Spirit works in people's hearts. We must be faithful to speak and love, but trust God with the results.

Jesus said to his first followers, "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men". Filled with the Holy Spirit and his love, they changed the course of history forever. The Holy Spirit transformed them from fearful men and women into bold witnesses for Christ.

Read Acts 1:8. How can **you** get involved in the Great Commission?