

INTRO

We're looking today at the Great Commission and discovering our life's mission. Have you ever wondered what on earth you are really here for or looked into the whole question of discovering our purpose in life?

The answer to this is something Jesus focused on significantly during the 40 days after His resurrection. One of the focal points of His teaching was telling His disciples how they were to continue His mission on the earth. Today we are looking at a particular incident when Jesus appeared to His followers on a mountain in Galilee. There are two things we are going to look at concerning our life mission:

1. The **source of our mission** is Jesus
2. The **goal of our mission** is transformed lives

BRING YOUR BIBLES

Read aloud **Matthew 28:16–20**, encouraging everyone to follow along in their own Bibles. The more translations the better as each may highlight something different.

Now allow the whole group the opportunity to share what stood out anew to them and why.

QUESTIONS

1. *[If your church are running the 40 Days with Jesus sermons]* What particularly impacted you from Sunday's message?
2. *[If you are using the small group videos instead]* What particularly impacted you from this week's message?
3. Read verse 18. How does our understanding of who Jesus is affect our understanding of who we are and what our mission is? Are there other factors or people in our lives who might try and influence our calling?
4. In verses 19–20 Jesus lays out what is known as 'the Great Commission'. What are the three things He calls us to do? To what extent do these three factors influence our daily lives, decision making and conversations?

5. This calling on us as followers of Christ highlights that we are together on a mission. What benefit do you think Jesus sees in us fulfilling His commission together, rather than on our own?
6. Read verses 19–20. Unpack the detail of what ‘going and making disciples’ involves. On a personal level, who are we seeking to reach? Think of one of your friends who does not yet believe in Jesus. Imagine or ‘see’ them when they are fully devoted and in love with Jesus. How do you see them getting from where they are now, to where God would love them to be?
7. Think about this coming week. Where will you be going? Who will you be meeting? In what ways will knowing that Jesus has all authority affect how you think, behave and pray in these situations and settings?

SHARE YOUR STORY

You can discuss the following questions together as one group or, if individuals prefer, you could split into groups of two or three.

8. Verse 17 reminds us that some worshipped, but some doubted, even though the risen Jesus was standing right in front of them! Can you think of a time in your Christian journey when you needed to process some truth about God, before you could fully own it?
9. Verse 18 speaks about the absolute authority the Father has invested in Jesus Christ (authority is the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and call to obedience). What would you do in the name of Jesus, if you knew that you could not fail? Share anything that God is stirring your heart to do.

PRAY TOGETHER

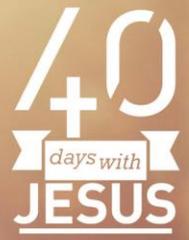
Take the time to invite the Holy Spirit. Perhaps begin with prayers of worship and thanksgiving, then you may choose to follow these suggestions for specific prayer:

You could pray:

- that any doubts in God would continue to diminish so that we can worship and love Him with all our heart, strength and mind
- for a fresh revelation of the authority each one of us has in Christ

WEEK 05 SMALL GROUP

MADE FOR A MISSION



- for those we will meet with in the coming week – that their hearts would be prepared and that we would be ready for any opportunity to bring them closer to Jesus.