VPOC Sermon Notes

Topic:	The Great Commission	Bible Passage:	Matthew 28:8-10 & 16-20
Preacher:	Ps Paul Curtis	Date:	25th May 2025

Study Guide Overview

- The "great commission" can easily be the church's great omission (v19)
- We can easily overlook the importance of our calling (v16-18)
- We don't fully understand the depth of Christ love for sinners (v10)
- Yet it is the most needed news for all of creation (v20a)
- And what is really incredible about it, it will never ever diminish (v20b)

Sermon Notes

Small Group Questions/Discussions

What is your immediate response to Christ' command to make disciples and baptise them? Why do we sometimes feel a little anxious? Why do we sometimes just overlook it? We all care for lost people but do we care enough?

Jesus makes sure we understand that this is really the most important thing. It is his last words to the disciples and it comes with the backing of all of heaven and earth. Do you think we sometimes find other things in the life of the church that take most of our attention? They are all good things – but how do we overcome the temptation of giving them too much importance?

The disciples were not exactly faithful to Jesus at was the most challenging time leading up to his crucifixion. Discuss some of the things they did which fell well short of loyalty to Jesus. Even though they were unfaithful, we read in **verse 10 ...Do not be afraid, go and tell my brothers.** Christ' heart and mind was focused solely on his disciples "my brothers" The apostle Paul's life was transformed - as you read his letters you see this amazing love and compassion he has for the people. Read 1 Tim 1:12-16. What changed Paul – What can change us to have such a deep love for others?

To make disciples is simply introducing them to Jesus. **v20a** "**teaching them to obey**" is only possible once lost people are able to see and hear and understand. That's the Holy Spirits work. But introducing them to Jesus is ours. In what practical ways can we introduce people to Jesus?

Amazingly this love for us and others will never diminish (v20b) This amazing truth fills us with a deep love for God. Once His love keeps washing over us and over us, our hearts soften and then we develop a love for the lost. With this in mind may we pray 3 things every day. 1. God give me a heart for lost people. Fill me with compassion for them. 2. May introducing Jesus to people be the most important thing for me and our church. 3. God would you run people across my path who are ready to hear my story.