

Group Discussion Questions
Mission of the Church
Matthew 28:18-20

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1. What does Jesus claim about His authority? How does Jesus's claim shape the way you approach your daily decisions or challenges?
2. Why do you think Jesus connects His authority to the command to "go and make disciples"?
3. What does "making disciples of all nations" imply about the scope and inclusiveness of the mission?
4. How is making disciples different from simply leading someone to a moment of conversion?
5. What actions are involved in making disciples according to this passage?
6. How does being baptized "in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" shape our understanding of Christian identity? What role does baptism play in your own faith journey, and how can you encourage others to take this step?
7. The Greek word *tēreō* which is translated as *observe* in verse 20 means to hold fast, keep, to heed, obey. Why does Jesus emphasize teaching people to observe rather than simply teaching them to know His commands?
8. How are you currently helping others grow in their faith, and where might God be nudging you to deepen that?
9. How does knowing Jesus is "with you always" affect your confidence and willingness to share your faith?
10. What practice helps you stay aware of His presence throughout your day?

Application

1. What would change this week if you acted with confidence that Jesus truly reigns over every part of your life?
2. Who in your life might God be inviting you to intentionally invest in spiritually?

3. What rhythms or habits could you build that naturally create space for disciple-making?
 4. Are there “nations” or groups around you that you feel called to reach with the gospel? How can your group pray or support outreach efforts?
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Group Discussion Questions
What is the Church?
Titus 2:11-14

Verse 11 says, “the grace of God has appeared...bringing salvation for all people.”

- What does this teach us about where the church’s identity begins?
- How is the church different from a club or social group based on this verse?
- In what ways do we tend to define ourselves by things other than God’s grace?

Verse 12 says grace is “training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions.”

- What does this tell us about the purpose of grace in the life of the church?
- How does this challenge the idea that grace is just forgiveness without change?
- What are some practical examples of “renouncing ungodliness” in today’s culture

Verse 12 also says we are to live “self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.”

- Which of these three (self-controlled, upright, godly) do you think is most lacking in the church today? Why?
- How can we help one another actually live this out as a church family?
- What would it look like for outsiders to clearly see these traits in our church?

Verse 13 speaks of “our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

- How does our future hope shape our present identity?
- What happens to a church when it loses sight of Christ’s return?
- How should hope in Christ’s return affect our priorities, fears, and ambitions?
- In what ways can we encourage one another to live with eternity in view?

Verse 14 says Jesus “gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness.”

- What does this reveal about who we were and who we now are?
- How does redemption shape the way we view sin in our lives and in the church?
- Why is it important that our identity is tied to Christ’s sacrifice, not our performance?

Verse 14 says we are “*a people for his own possession.*”

- What does it mean for the church to belong to God?
- How should this truth affect the way we think about the church?
- What are some subtle ways we act like the church belongs to us instead of God?

Verse 14 ends by saying we are “*zealous for good works.*”

- How is being “zealous” different from just occasionally doing good things?
- What kinds of good works should characterize our church specifically?
- How do good works serve as a visible expression of our identity in Christ?

Further Reflection:

- If someone observed our church for a month, what would they conclude our identity is?
- Which part of Titus 2:11–14 do you think our church most needs to grow in right now?
- What is one specific way you can live out this identity this week within the church?