

INTRODUCTION

When something exciting happens to us, we can't wait to share it with others. At the core, this is what the Kingdom Commission is about... the Good News of Christ's sacrifice has so drastically changed our lives that we can't wait to share it with others. Corrie Ten Boom, a Dutch Christian who went to a concentration camp for hiding Jewish people from the Nazis, said, *"Every Christian is called to be the light of the world. And every Christian must be ready to tell the way of salvation to anyone who needs it."* Are you excited and ready to share your faith in Christ with others?

SCRIPTURE

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Briefly share with your group how you came to know Christ. Who were the people that influenced your decision?
2. Read Matthew 28:18-20. Jesus states that He has been given all authority over heaven and earth. Who gave Him this authority? (See John 13:3.) Since Jesus *is* God, what does it mean that He has been *given* this authority?
3. The Commission tells us to go into ALL the world and make disciples of ALL nations...does that seem a bit daunting? Read Luke 15:3-7 and discuss as a group your role in the Great Commission.

4. Read the passages below and write out three motives for sharing your faith:

Acts 4:20; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 _____

Mark 16:15; 1 Peter 3:15 _____

Matthew 9:36-38; Matthew 14:14 _____

Study Questions for Community Groups

5. Read the following Scripture and write what you learn about God’s heart for the world:

Zephaniah 3:17 _____

John 3:16 _____

Romans 5:8 _____

Romans 8:32 _____

2 Peter 3:9 _____

1 John 4:9-10 _____

6. According to Steven Lee (desiringgod.org), *“We lack compassion for the lost. We have long forgotten what it was like to live without hope, lost and apart from Christ. We rarely consider that those who do not obey Christ ‘will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord’ (2 Thessalonians 1:9). We just don’t care that much. We might say we care, but we rarely cry out to God for the salvation of our lost neighbors, coworkers, and classmates. Paul’s compassion in Romans 9:3 is utterly foreign to us: ‘I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers’.*” Does knowing how much God loves the lost, and what their eternal destiny is, change how you feel about sharing your faith? Why or why not?

7. What are some challenges you will face as you actively share the Gospel?

8. Read Matthew 24:14. What is the timetable for accomplishing the Kingdom Commission? Does this give you a sense of urgency?

APPLICATION

There are a number of ways that you can “go”. Choose one of the following, or find one on your own, and go!

- Invite friends to Fellowship’s Outrageous Series beginning October 16.
- Help out at the homeless ministry on the 4th Saturday of each month (purchase food, make sandwiches, donate to blessings bags, deliver food and bags).
- Share the name of one person you know who does not know Christ, and spend time as a group praying for an opportunity and boldness to share your faith.
- Talk with Pastor Joe about going on a mission trip.
- Check out www.joshuaproject.net or www.operationworld.org to learn about unreached people groups and how to pray for the world.