

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE OVERCOMER

Mission Impossible!
Matthew 18:19-20

Matthew 28:16-20

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them.

17 When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

NKJV

After Jesus rose from the dead. He spent 40 more days on earth before He ascended into heaven. During that time there are recorded in the gospels 10 meetings with His disciples.

This meeting was one of the ten. It happened on a mountain in Galilee. Which mountain in Galilee is unknown.

When Jesus appeared they worshiped Him, but some doubted. Jesus had appeared to them earlier and verified Himself to them. They were not doubting the Resurrection.

They were doubting if this was truly Jesus appearing to them.

In this meeting He did not perform any miraculous element to confirm His identity. He did not appear out of thin air. He did not walk through a wall. He did not show them His hands and His feet.

- Jesus dispelled their doubts by claiming all authority in heaven and on earth.

He reminded them of something that He had claimed before.

John 5:22-23

22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,

23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

NKJV

- Jesus dispelled their doubts by reminding them of the mission that He had for them.

Jesus introduced them to His mission for them when He first called them to be His disciples.

Matthew 4:19

19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

NKJV

- Jesus dispelled their doubts by reminding them that He was fulfilling prophecy.

Their field was to include all nations, not just Israel (see comments on Matt 10:5-6). This fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah.

Isaiah 42:1

42 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

NKJV

- Jesus dispelled their doubts by reminding them that baptism in water was the method He chose to associate new believers with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Jesus established this method of association by His own baptism.

Matthew 3:16-17

16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

NKJV

- Jesus dispelled their doubts by reminding them that He would always be with them.

He had promised them before His death that He would send His Holy Spirit to live with them and be in them.

John 14:15-18

15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever —

17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

NKJV

The final words of the Lord recorded by Matthew were a promise that He would be with them always until the very end of the Age. Though the Lord did not remain physically with the Eleven, His spiritual presence was with them until their tasks on earth were finished.

They were to make disciples by proclaiming the truth concerning Jesus. Their hearers were to be evangelized and enlisted as Jesus' followers.

To be a follower of Jesus included the responsibility of proclaiming the truth.

The disciples did not share the same spiritual gifts. But Jesus made it clear that one responsibility that they all shared was teaching others His commands.

Jesus did not say, “go and teach them.” Jesus said go and teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you.

[Matthew 28:20...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...](#)

Jesus commanded His disciples to proclaim the truth. Jesus made it crystal clear that this command to proclaim the truth was for every disciple of Jesus.

The fact that this command to proclaim the truth was for all followers of Jesus was then confirmed on the day of Pentecost.

When the Holy Spirit arrived at Pentecost, all 120 followers of Jesus began to proclaim the Word of God to unbelievers.

[Acts 2:1-11](#)

[When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.](#)

[2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.](#)

[3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.](#)

[4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.](#)

According to research by research firms like the Barna institute or the Pew Research Center, the percentage of believers is very low that obeys Jesus command and proclaims the truth to others.

For many, the only time they ever declare their faith is through their baptism.

George Barna said in 2018...

[Yet the most dramatic divergence over time is on the statement, “Every Christian has a responsibility to share their faith.” In 1993, nine out of 10 Christians who had shared their faith agreed \(89%\). Today, just two-thirds say so \(64%\)—a 25-point drop.](#)

And the percentage of 64% that actually share their faith is much much lower.

[36% of believers in the church do not believe it is their responsibility to share their faith or proclaim the truth to others.](#)

[How did this happen?](#)

- [There has been a shift in our society.](#)

It is more difficult today to be out spoken about your faith then it was when I was a teen ager. Secularism, relativism, pluralism and the digital age are contributing to a society that

is not interested in any religion that defines evil or sin in a way that causes people to feel judged or that teaches there is only one way to God.

There are growing cultural taboos against proselytizing. Believers are scared. Many hide their fears behind the mask of being kind to people.

- There has been a shift in the church.
- 1. Leaders of the church have rejected Matthew 28:18-20 as being a command for all followers of Jesus.

This is most apparent in specific denominations that relegate the responsibility of making disciples to their Pastors or priests.

- 2. Leaders of the church have divorced the method of Jesus to make disciples from the commands of Jesus.

Jesus used a method with His disciples that was relational and reproducible. He called 12 guys to be His first disciples. He shared life, love, and lessons with them. He imparted truth to them as they dealt with real life situations. He used a method of imparting truth to them that any one of them could use to share with others. He did not just call a meeting every day or once a week and lecture them. Jesus expected His disciples to use His method.

Leaders of the church have adopted the lecture method of discipleship as the main method of discipleship. It is non-relational and not reproducible.

As a result, disciples do not believe they can ever be equipped enough to teach like their pastor or answer everyone's questions. They conclude teaching others is not everyone's responsibility.

Isn't it interesting that Jesus sent His disciples out on a mission trip to make disciples only a short time after He had called them to be His disciples?

Luke 9:1-6

1 Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.

2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

3 And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.

4 "Whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart.

5 And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them."

6 So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

NKJV

These men were fisherman, a tax collector, and even a zealot. These were not powerful orators. They had not yet received the Holy Spirit. They did not understand the atonement. They did not know about the resurrection.

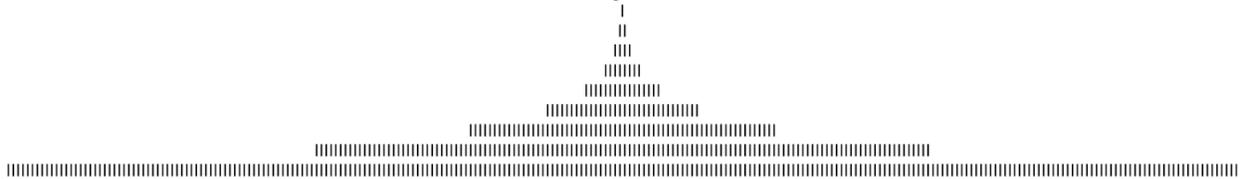
They were successful on this mission because they used the method that Jesus told them to use.

We cannot currently do a lot right now to change the cultural shift in our society. We can pray.

But we can make a discipleship shift in our lives that could have an incredible impact on our society in a short amount of time.

Every move Jesus made was very strategic. He had an incredible mission to fulfill. To fulfill it, He had to instill faith in His disciples and they in turn would have to instill faith in others and they in turn would have to instill faith in others.

The Power of Doubling Every Year



Compare the numerical results between
Spiritual Addition and Spiritual Multiplication.

Spiritual Addition <small>(Reach 100 People for Christ Each Day)</small>	Year	Spiritual Multiplication <small>(Win, Build & Send One Person Every 6 Months)</small>
(thousand) 36,000	1	4
72,000	2	16
108,000	3	64
144,000	4	256
180,000	5	1,024 (thousand)
216,000	6	4,096
252,000	7	16,384
288,000	8	65,536
324,000	9	262,144
360,000	10	1,048,576 (million)
396,000	11	16,777,216
432,000	12	67,108,864
468,000	13	268,435,456
504,000	14	1,0736,741,824 (billion)
540,000	15	4,294,967,296
576,000	16	17,179,867,184

One Person **CAN** Make a Difference!

God Wants YOU To Be That Person!

Multiplication is more effective than addition.

The church in America should not be losing. The fact that we are losing reveals we are not multiplying. Every believer is not accepting the responsibility of sharing their faith with others. This needs to change. It needs to change today.

To make a great impact, we must make a disciple shift.

- Every member of our church needs to agree that Matthew 28:19-20 is for all believers.
- Every member of our church needs to learn how to use the method that Jesus used to make disciples.

Before Jesus went to the cross, He said to the father I have completed the mission that you gave me to do.

John 17:4-6

4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples 6 "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

NKJV

He was not talking about the atonement. He was talking about discipling 11 men.

Before you die, will you be able to say that with a clear conscience?

Have you personally accepted the command of Jesus to proclaim the truth to others and to make disciples?

Will you accept this responsibility today?

Will you commit yourself to learn how to make disciples that make disciples?

I want you to remember this truth throughout this series.

Whatever Jesus calls you to do is the best version of yourself. Jesus never calls us to do anything that is not aligned with how God sees us. How God sees us is reality.

The best version of our self is being like Jesus!

Romans 8:29

29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

NKJV

2 Corinthians 3:18

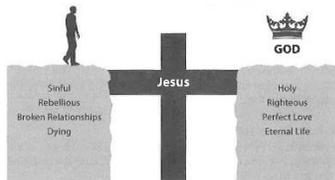
18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

NKJV

Transformation occurs by seeing yourself the way God sees you!

The best version of ourselves is like Jesus if we are in Christ and He is in us!

If you are not in Christ and He is not in you then you are lost in your sins. (Share gospel put up these slides one at a time).



To walk across that bridge, you must...

- Repent of your sins
- Believe upon Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins

Will you receive Jesus today?