

09-30-12

Series: The Great Commission

The Great Commission (4)

Pastor Eddie Idefonso

Matthew 28:16-20

(Continuation from 09/23/12)

The Making Disciples of All Nations, Part 1

Now here's the point. Get it very clearly. Here's the point. The person who desires to glorify God, who wants to honor God's will and God's purpose and God's desire, must then love the lost world the way God loves the lost world and give his life for the sake of winning that lost world. That is the pattern. God loved a lost world and sought to win it to Himself for His own glory. Christ came into the world, loved a lost world and sought to win it to Himself for the Father's glory. We are sent into the world to love the lost world, to seek to win the lost world for the glory of God the Father. Our mission is the same mission Christ had, it's the same mission God the Father had...no different...identical.

When Jesus came into the world, He wanted to glorify the Father. In [John 17](#), this is outlined for us so beautifully, turn to it for just a moment. In [John 17:3](#), it says, **“And this is life eternal that they might know Thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.”** And then Jesus said, **“I have glorified Thee on the earth.”** That was His mission. I came to glorify You. And how? To reconcile man back for that is the single greatest way that God is glorified. That's what Christ came for. That's why He came. I have glorified You. How did You do that? **“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to...what?...save that which was lost.”** ([Luke 19:10](#)) Yes, Christ came to glorify God. How did He do that? By seeking and saving that which was lost.

Now that is precisely, beloved, that is precisely what the mission of the church is. It's no different because we are an extension of God the Father. We are an extension of the ministry of God the Father. His desire to be glorified by the salvation of lost sinners, Christ's desire to glorify the sinner through the salvation of lost sinners, our desire is to glorify the Father through the salvation of lost sinners and that is our purpose.

And in [John 17](#), it comes through so very, very clearly. He says in [verse 6](#), **“I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world.”** I told them about You, He said. I conveyed to them Your desire, Your motive, Your mission. (see [John 17:6-7](#)). In other words, they know that I'm doing what You desire to be done. You see the flow? He says to the Father, **“Father, I've glorified You, I've told them exactly what Your intention is, what Your mission is, they've gotten it. They understand it. They've kept Your word.”** [Verse 8](#),

In other words, the Savior is saying they understand the mission. They understand why You sent Me into the world. And [verse 9](#), **“I pray for them. I pray not for the world, but for them whom Thou hast given Me, for they're Thine.”** We belong to God. We're in a link with the same mission that the Father had.

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Now drop down to [verse 14](#). He says, “Look, Father, I know what Your motive is to be glorified. I know what Your mission is to reach the lost. I came into the world with the same motive and the same mission, and I passed it on to these disciples. They understand Your word. They understand I was sent from You. They understand the mission. They know why I’m here. They know what they’re to do. And I ask, O God, three things, that they may follow Your word, that they may be kept from the evil one and that they may be pure. That’s what I pray for them.”

And then [verse 18](#) is the climax. **“As You sent Me into the world,”** underline the word **“as.”** That is the dominant idea here that conveys the intent. What do you mean by that? **“As you sent Me.”** Well, why did He send You? **“To glorify Himself through winning lost men and women to salvation.”** **“As You have sent Me into the world, the unredeemed world to win men and women, even so have I also sent them into the world.”** It’s the same thing.

Beloved, we have no different mission in the world than the incarnate Jesus Christ had to fulfill the heart of God in winning the lost. That is our mission...to glorify God by bringing salvation to lost men and women.