

# The Great Commission

## we all have a part

### Start Here

- Can you remember how Step 6 described a disciple?
- Give an example of one way you have followed Jesus this week.

### Discuss

- As you have been learning to follow Jesus, what changes in your life have you or others noticed?
- In what ways are you participating in serving his kingdom?

### Explore the Word (Part 1)

Matthew 28:16-20 records some of Jesus' final words to his disciples, known as 'the Great Commission.' He communicates clearly his priorities for his disciples and the work he has given them to do.

Read Matthew 28:16-20

- How much authority does Jesus have? Why is this important?
- What is the specific assignment Jesus gives his followers?
- What does Jesus promise at the end and why is that important to you?
- As a disciple yourself, how can you play your role in this?

Read Acts 1:8

- Where does the power come from to follow the command of the Great Commission?

### Main Idea

We are all called to be disciples and we are all called to make disciples. This means we ourselves must continue to learn to follow Jesus and participate in his mission till the end of our lives. It also means we should help others to do the same.

Making disciples is the job of every believer; it is not just for pastors and teachers. The challenge is that most of us feel like we are not qualified. Perhaps we feel like we have more growing to do ourselves. The first disciples felt the same way. Even as Jesus spoke to them, they were not all strong in faith. Some of them even had doubts! (Matthew 28:17)

But Jesus promised to be with us and empower us as we go about doing the work he's called us to do. Making disciples simply begins by sharing what we've learned with someone else so that together we can grow as apprentices of Jesus.

### Discuss

Reflect once again on your journey so far:

- What have you shared with someone else about what God has done in your life?
- How can you encourage somebody else to follow Jesus and become more like him?
- In what ways would helping someone else to follow Jesus help you to also grow as a disciple?

## **Explore the Word (Part 2)**

Jesus' call for us to be and make disciples brings us into the heart of God's plan. From the beginning and throughout the Scriptures, God revealed his love for the whole world.  
Read Genesis 12:1-3

- Who does God want to be blessed through Abram?

God repeats the promise again to Abram in Genesis 18:18; then again to Isaac and Jacob in Genesis 26:4 and 28:14.

- What does this show us about God?

Read Isaiah 49:6

- How far does God intend his salvation to reach?

Paul repeats the same passage from Isaiah in Acts 13:47.

- What does this mean for us as followers of Jesus?

## **Practice Together Now**

What a great promise we have. When we follow Jesus' command to share the Gospel and make disciples, Jesus is with us and will strengthen us through the Holy Spirit.

We can support and encourage others to follow Jesus in many ways. One simple way is to use Safar because it has been designed to enable every believer to encourage another in their discipleship.

Consider how you both can continue to play your part in the great commission by discipling one other person after you finish this journey.

- Think of people you might be able to start Safar with: someone who has come to Christ recently or who may want to grow deeper in their discipleship. List out the names. (If no one comes to mind, think of people you want to share Jesus with.)
- Spend five minutes praying for these people by name, and ask the Lord to help them grow as disciples.
- Ask God to give you one person that you can help to follow Jesus as a disciple, and thank him that he gives you his strength to do this, and that he has promised to be with you as you do.

## **Review your Practice Daily**

- Continue to pray daily for the people you have listed.



- Ask God to prepare you and make a way for you to start a new journey with someone using Safar.
- Talk to your church leaders and have them pray for you as you seek to play your part in the great commission.