

A Commissioned Church – A Church in Action  
Pentecostals of Dadeville – Rev Andrew Salinas  
May 2, 2010

Read Aloud – Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 24:47-49 (printed at the end)

Jesus commissioned His disciples to take the gospel to the whole world. This great commission continues to impact the church today, as it did the early church.

- **What is a Commission?**

Commission –noun 1 a formal written warrant granting the power to perform various acts or duties 2 : an authorization or command to act in a prescribed manner or to perform prescribed acts : charge 3 authority to act for, in behalf of, or in place of another 4 an act of entrusting or giving authority.

- **What Does God's Word Say About “Teach”?**

The word translated “teach” in Matthew 28:19 is an interesting word. It translates from the transliterated Greek word matheteusate, which means “to make a disciple; to teach, instruct. Strong’s defines the word; to become a pupil or disciple, to enroll as a scholar.

- **Jesus’ Powerful Mandate**

Jesus left no question as to the responsibility of His people.

*Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.*

### **Make Disciples**

Although Matthew 28:19 includes the idea of teaching or proclaiming the gospel (Go, teach), the mandate of the church is to make disciples. Jesus mentioned in Matthew 18:19-20 at least 3 elements that are necessary to make disciples.

1. **Go** – 1<sup>st</sup> Jesus commanded that we “go” to “all nations. The Greek word translated “nations” in Matthew 28:19 is ethnos, which means going to other countries, races, and tribes. The implication here is to go to the pagan.

Is any exempt from the gospel? *Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*

How can we evangelize our world if we never get out of our natural boundaries, our  
comfort zone?

To take the gospel to the world requires effort.. To take the gospel to the world requires money and manpower. We already have the message and the mission. God has given us the means to make the money and the strength or manpower. We must be willing to give and to GO.

2. **Baptize** – When we go, when are to baptize believers. It is essential for a person to believe if he is to be saved. Believing is the first step toward a relationship with God. *Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

Believing is essential but not the only part of salvation; *Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 1 Peter 3:21 ¶The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:*

Water baptism is essential to salvation. The apostle Peter observed that we are “saved’ by water baptism (1 Peter 3:21). Moreover the mode of water baptism is also vital.. We should consider two things about the mode of water baptism.

First, the mode of water baptism is to be by immersion, Based on the meaning of the Greek word for baptize (baptizo), means to make fully wet or to dip, plunge, or submerge. Indicating to wash, to make clean with water. Lets look at the account of the Ethiopian eunuch. Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

Second mode is in the name. read Acts 2:38 and Acts 4:12

3. **Teach to observe all things** - finally we are to make disciples, this requires systematic teaching. The message of the gospel is on eof change. We are not only to hear the gospel but to allow it to continually change us. Jesus didn’t come to save us in our sins but to save us from our sins.. read *Romans 6:1 ¶What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*

Christ’s mandate to the church also came with certain responsibilities and expectations. He expects is to; (one cannot reside without the other)

1. Love one another
2. Have unity with Him, His cause, and with one another
3. Be holy
4. Be fruitful by making disciples.

**This is our commission.**