

# Our Mission | Drift

## Matthew 28:16-20

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**I. If we are not intentional to stay on mission, we will easily drift off mission**

**II. We exist to glorify God by making disciples who make a big deal of Jesus where we live, work, and play. (Matthew 28:19-20)**

*Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17And when they saw Him they worshiped Him, but some doubted. 18And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

—Matthew 28:16-20

a. Jesus's words are not a suggestion, but a command. (28:19)

*Go therefore and make disciples...*

—Matthew 28:19a

b. Disciple making is meeting people where they are and helping them become more like Jesus. (28:19; Mk 1:16-18; 2:13)

*Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.*

—1 Thessalonians 2:8

c. This command isn't for a select few, it applies to every follower of Jesus (2 Tim. 2:2)

*what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.*

—2 Timothy 2:2

d. Our Gospel impact is to be both deep and wide. (28:19-20; Acts 1:8)

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...*

—Matthew 28:19a

*teaching them to observe all that I have commanded*

—Matthew 28:20a

### **III. Our Vision: Establish a culture of leader development that produces and releases spiritual leaders to serve God's mission in the world.**

a. **LEAD**: Leadership institute that prepares leaders to serve God's mission within the local church.

b. **LAUNCH**: Ministry residency program that equips those who sense God's call to full-time, vocational ministry.

c. **MULTIPLY**: Strategic initiative to expand our Gospel influence by planting like-minded, self-sustaining churches.

*And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12for the equipping of the saints for the work of service*

—Ephesians 4:11-12

### **Study Questions**

1. It was said in this week's message: If we are not intentional to stay on mission, we will easily drift off mission. Think about this statement in the context of the local church. Describe the potential dangers to a church drifting away from its God-given mission. If applicable, explain what you've seen firsthand. Also, discuss some potential reasons churches might drift.

2. Even though different churches might state their mission differently, Jesus made the church's mission clear. Read Matthew 28:19-20, as well as Acts 1:8. These verses are key to understanding our mission in

the world. What similarities do you find in both passages? Are there any differences? In your own words, describe Jesus's commission to His people (i.e. His church).

3. Making disciples isn't for a select few; instead, its the call of every follower of Jesus. Simply put, making disciples is meeting people where they are and helping them become more like Jesus. (See Mark 1:16-19; 2:13-17). Talk about any experience(s) you've had at being discipled. Also, discuss any experience(s) you've had at discipling someone yourself. Finally, who in your sphere of influence might benefit from your coming alongside them and helping them grow? What might this look for you to do this? Explain.

4. If we are going to fulfill our mission as a church, we've all got to contribute and do our part. Consider our mission statement: *We exist to glorify God by making disciples who make a big deal of Jesus where we live, work, and play.* What practical next steps might you personally take to start living out our mission? Be specific. Describe any hesitations or fears this might conjure up. Spend some time praying and asking God to give you both the clarity, as well as the boldness to take your next step towards being a disciple who makes disciples.