

Divine Assignment of the Church

Matthew 28:18-20

Acts 1:8

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Matt 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

¶ 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Acts 1:8

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

A new study from Barna research found a troubling lack of awareness of the Great Commission.

Not only do half (51 percent) say they've never heard the phrase, 25 percent say they've heard of it but can't remember the exact meaning. Fewer than 1 in 5 (17 percent) say they've heard of the Great Commission and know what it means. When given a list of five verses containing prominent words of Jesus, 37 percent could pick out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). A third (33 percent) still said they weren't sure if any of those verses were it and 16 percent chose the *Great Commandment* (Matthew 22:37-40), which is often summarized as "Love God and love others." Among the generations, elders—defined by Barna as those born prior to 1946—are most likely to say they know what it is (29 percent).

Smaller percentages of baby boomers (26 percent) and Generation X (17 percent) say have heard of and know the Great Commission. And only 10 percent of millennials say the same.

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I) Responsibility of our Assignment

A. Propagation of the Gospel Message

Propagation – the action of widely spreading and promoting an idea or belief

B. Preparation of the Disciple Maker

Matt 28:18-20

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2 Tim 2:2

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

C. Provision for the Church Planter

Phil 4:14-17

14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

16 For even in Thessalonica **ye sent once and again unto my necessity.**

17 Not because I desire a gift: **but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.**

II) Resource for our Assignment

Acts 1:8

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:

A. Importance of Prayer

Acts 4:31

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 16:25-26

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

B. Importance of Purity

Eph 4:29-32

29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

1 Thess 5:18-19

18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19 Quench not the Spirit.

Grieve – to offend, to displease

Quench – to repress, to stifle, to quiet

III) Realm of our Assignment

A. Locally (Jerusalem) (My Story, DMD)

B. Nationally (Judaea and Samaria) (Mission America)

C. Globally (Uttermost parts of the Earth) (TTI Partnership overseas)